

Vocational Rehabilitation

Looking for and finding work that best meets our interests, needs and ambitions while using our skills is challenging for everyone. A brain injury can radically change a person's needs and abilities, greatly influencing his or her work life.

Assess Needs and Abilities

Depending on the nature and severity of your brain injury, you may or may not be able to return to the same job or a similar job to what you had before your brain injury. You should take extra care in assessing your job skills and abilities, as well as any changes you may have experienced. You want to be reasonable and realistic in your self-assessment and expectations. Some persons with brain injury have trouble with organization, distractibility, decision-making, impulsivity, fatigue, learning difficulties and relationships with co-workers. Vocational Rehabilitation can help you analyze your skills and interests by providing a vocational evaluation consisting of testing and a series of work and task assessments.

You have several options. You can prepare for work, go back to school to learn and/or relearn material, or volunteer.

Volunteering

One excellent way to restore and explore job skills, interests and work habits is through volunteering. Voluntary work can give you valuable experience and be extremely rewarding. Volunteering can build your resume and help you feel more connected to the people around you. Plus, you can make a significant contribution to the world around us!

Vocational Rehabilitation

Persons with brain injury may be eligible for services through Vocational Rehabilitation. These services can include evaluation, counseling, and testing, job coaching, diagnostic services, on-the-job training, assistive technology, supported employment, physical and mental restoration, transportation, rehabilitation engineering, college and vocational education, job placement, and personal assistance.

When you call Vocational Rehabilitation you will begin with an initial interview. During the interview you will be asked to provide some information about your disability. You may need to provide your medical records, sign a release form, or need other evaluations. Once the interview is complete, you will need to submit an application in order to apply for services. After your application is processed and approved, you will meet with your VR counselor. During this meeting you can find out what a counselor's responsibilities are for ensuring that you meet your goals. You may want to ask your counselor about policies regarding funding for things such as assistive technology.

Occasionally, the counselor assigned to you may not be a good match for your personality. You have the right to address this issue and ask to be transferred to another counselor.

If you are notified that services have been denied but you think you should be eligible, call and ask how to appeal the decision. Please do not feel that you are “complaining” or “being difficult.” The appeals process is there for a reason.

Placement Services

Placement services are available through VR to individuals who are made eligible and would like assistance establishing vocational goals, preparing for work, and post-employment support.

For more information on the services Vocation Rehabilitation offers, please call the state office at **(919) 855-3500**, or the local office within the region of interest as listed in this section or on the website, <http://dvr.dhhs.state.nc.us/index.htm>.

Vocational Services

Agencies, which specialize in vocational services primarily, provide assistance in job training and placement. Most vocational agencies facilitate work evaluations and offer some form of supported employment. Contact the agencies listed under this category to see if you may be eligible to receive services.



Vocational Evaluation
Job Coaching
Work Adjustment
Job Placement

Community Workforce Solutions

Innovative Solutions Since 1964

3011 Falstaff Road Raleigh, NC 27610 (919) 231-3325	<i>Certified Brain Injury Specialist On-site</i>	602 S. Garnett Street Henderson, NC 27536 (252) 492-9555
---	--	--

www.communityworkforcesolutions.com

Client Assistance Program

PO Box 26053
Raleigh, NC 27611

(800) 215-7227

(919) 855-3600

<http://cap.state.nc.us>

The Client Assistance Program (CAP) assists clients in understanding and using rehabilitation services. It was established as part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. CAP staff answer questions about programs and services, work with clients and counselors to solve problems, advises on how to appeal decision that remain unresolved following informal discussions, directs clients to other resources (<http://cap.state.nc.us>).

CMG

905-B North New Hope Road
Gastonia, NC 28054

(704) 852-9446

Fax: (704) 868-2154

Assists individuals with barriers in obtaining and maintaining employment.

Community Partnerships

3522 Haworth Drive
Raleigh, NC 27609

(919) 781-3616

www.compart.org

Provides vocational services including supported employment, job development, employment & training, on-going support services, cognitive training, occupational information, and various support services.

Raleigh Location:

(919) 231-3325

3011 Falstaff Road
Raleigh, NC 27610

Henderson Location:

(252) 492-9555

602 S. Garnett Street
Henderson, NC 27536

www.communityworkforcesolutions.com
info@communityworkforcesolutions.com

Community Workforce Solutions, Inc. is a private, non-profit agency supporting individuals with disabilities in seven North Carolina counties. Our agency provides assessment, training, and job placement for individuals as well as outsource and production services for businesses of any size. With national accreditation through CARF, we offer programs such as vocational evaluation, job placement, work adjustment, community-based training, intensive on-the-job training with a job coach and long term job support. We provide the needed support to help individuals achieve their personal vocational goals. Our services are offered at two North Carolina sites located in Raleigh and Henderson.

Eastern Region Vocational Rehabilitation Facility

(919) 731-7956

902 Corporate Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27534

<http://dvr.dhhs.state.nc.us/>

The facility provides vocational counseling, evaluation, adjustment, and training services for individuals with disabilities. Services provided are designed to address functional limitation related to work, which include a lack of adequate activities of daily living skills, inappropriate social behavior and inadequate work habits and skills. Individuals are referred to the facility by their local Vocational Rehabilitation Service office (<http://dvr.dhhs.state.nc.us>).

Employment Security Commission

(919) 733-4329

Public Information Office
PO Box 25903
Raleigh, NC 27611

www.ncesc.com

Offices located across North Carolina. Call or visit website to locate office in your area. Provides quality job matching service to job seekers and employers on a non-fee basis. They also provide testing to evaluate aptitude, employment counseling to help job seekers make career choices, and referral to rehabilitation services or training to upgrade basic education or job skills (www.ncesc.com).

Vocational Services at Carolinas Rehabilitation

(704) 355-6515

1100 Blythe Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28203

www.carolinashealthcare.org

Provides vocational evaluation, work adjustment/pre-employment services, job placement, and supported employment for individuals with brain injury.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Local Offices

State Office: (919) 855-3500

Website: <http://dvr.dhhs.state.nc.us/>

Ahoskie (252) 332-4006

Fayetteville (910) 486-1101

Albemarle (704) 982-8124

Forest City (828) 245-1223

Asheboro (336) 629-1040

**Gastonia (704) 853-5358
(704) 853-5436**

Asheville (828) 670-3377

Goldsboro (919) 778-3795

Boone (828) 265-5396

Goldsboro VR Facility (919) 731-7956

Brevard (828) 883-2190

Graham (336) 570-6644

Burlington (336) 570-6855

Greensboro (336) 299-7337

Butner (919) 528-0227

Greenville (252) 830-8560

Chapel Hill (919) 969-7350

Henderson (252) 492-3141

**Charlotte (704) 568-8804
(704) 342-5049**

Hendersonville (828) 692-9184

Clinton (910) 592-4051

Hickory (828) 294-0120

Concord (704) 788-2172

High Point (336) 887-2686

Creedmoor (919) 528-0227

Jacksonville (910) 455-1445

Dunn (910) 892-7040

Kenansville (910) 296-0049

Durham (919) 560-6810

Kinston (252) 522-5482

Elizabeth City (252) 331-4768

Laurinburg (910) 272-4669

Elizabethtown (910) 872 5569

Lenoir (828) 757-5617

Lexington (336) 249-0241
Lincolnton (704) 735-8035
Louisburg (919) 496-3124
Lumberton (910) 618-5513
Marion (828) 652-2826
Marshall (828) 649-2962
Matthews (704) 844-8038
Mocksville (336) 751-0558
Monroe (704) 289-2543
Morehead City (252) 247-2037
Morganton (828) 432-5404
Morganton VR Facility (828) 433-2423
Mount Airy (336) 789-5039
Murphy (828) 837-6218
New Bern (252) 514-4727
Newland (828) 733-9345
North Wilkesboro (336) 667-1205
Pinehurst (910) 295-1530
Raleigh (919) 733-7807
Reidsville (336) 634-5611
Roanoke Rapids (252) 537-1126
Rockingham (910) 997-9230
Rocky Mount (252) 977-2112
Roxboro (336) 597-2150
Salisbury (704) 639-7575
Sanford (919) 775-2247
Shelby (704) 480-5412
Siler City (919) 663-2544
Smithfield (919) 934-0525
Statesville (704) 878-4230
Sylva (828) 586-4032
Tarboro (252) 641-7849
Thomasville (336) 474-2659
Washington (252) 946-0051
Waynesville (828) 456-3111
Whiteville (910) 642-5406
Wilmington (910) 251-5710
Wilson (252) 237-7161
Winston-Salem (336) 784-2700