



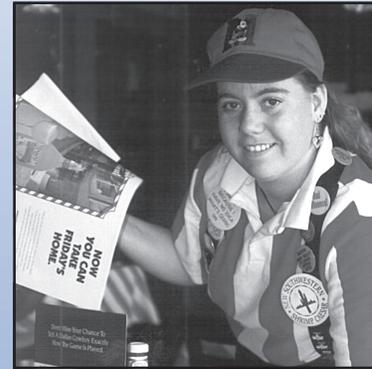
Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
Division for Rehabilitation Services
4900 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, Texas 78751-2399

DARS
Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services

Division for Rehabilitation Services

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

*Employment
means independence. With a job,
we can pay our bills...
purchase a house
or a car...
start a savings
account.*



The Vocational Rehabilitation Program of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Division for Rehabilitation Services (DRS) helps people who have physical or mental conditions prepare for, find or keep employment. Gaining skills needed for a career, learning how to prepare for a job interview or getting the accommodations needed to stay employed are just a few of the ways this program helps eligible people increase productivity and independence.

The counselor and consumer work together to:

- decide on an employment goal and
- develop a program of vocational rehabilitation services to achieve the goal.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program serves people with a wide variety of conditions, for example:

- mental illness,
- deaf and hard of hearing,
- impaired functioning of arms or legs,
- back injury,
- alcoholism or drug addiction,
- mental retardation,
- learning disability,
- traumatic brain injury and
- other physical or mental conditions that prevent a person from finding or keeping a job.

Services are provided based on individual needs. Some of these services are:

- medical, psychological and vocational evaluation to determine the nature and degree of the consumer's limitations and his or her job capabilities,
- counseling and guidance to help the consumer and family plan vocational goals and adjust to the working world,
- training to learn job skills in trade school, college, university, on the job or at home,
- hearing examinations, hearing aids and other communication equipment, aural rehabilitation and interpreter services for people who are deaf and hard of hearing,
- medical treatment and/or therapy to lessen or remove obstacles to employment,
- assistive devices such as artificial limbs, braces, and wheelchairs to stabilize or improve functioning on the job,
- rehabilitation technology devices and services to improve job functioning,
- training in appropriate work behaviors and other skills to meet employer expectations,

- job placement assistance to find jobs compatible with the person's physical and mental abilities and
- follow-up after job placement to ensure job success.

A person is eligible if:

- the person has a physical or mental condition which results in substantial problems in obtaining or maintaining employment;
- vocational rehabilitation services from DARS are required by that person to prepare for, get or keep a job and
- the person is able to get or keep a job after receiving services.

Services will be determined through informed consumer choice after providing information about options and alternatives.

There are several ways you can reach DARS to inquire about services. You may call

- your local DARS office (the number is often available in the government section of the phone book),
- one of the DRS Regional Offices shown below for information about the office closest to you, or
- the DARS Inquiry Line at 1-800-628-5115.

Information is also available online at
<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/index.html>.

The DARS - Division for Rehabilitation Services contact numbers listed below have TTY capability.

Region I
Lubbock
(806) 783-2960
1-800-392-1929

Region II
Metroplex
(972) 949-2400
1-800-634-2616

Region III
Austin
(512) 407-1320
1-800-687-2676

Region IV
Houston
(713) 267-8510
1-866-281-1804

Region V
San Antonio
(210) 805-2200
1-800-410-7760

Or call our toll-free help line:
1-800-628-5115

Cover Photos: Former consumers working at jobs they obtained with assistance from DARS.

The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

www.dars.state.tx.us
