

Welcome to VocRehab!

BARRE

Who We Are

*What We
Do*

*How We
Do It*

*How You
Do It*

Meet Our Team!



Our Staff

Our Mission



Bill Sugarman,
Regional Manager

VocRehab Counselors



Jeanne Boucher,
Senior Counselor

Emily Shiels,
LLC Career Counselor



Paul Coates,
General Counselor



Gail Parkhurst,
General Counselor



Elizabeth Bull, RID CI/CT
VR Counselor for the Deaf
& Hard-of-Hearing



Rocko Gieselman,
Transition Counselor

Our Employment Team



Jennifer Barrett,
Supervisory
Employment Consultant



Kevin Finnegan,
LLC Youth Employment
Specialist

Zoë Cartwright,
Business Account
Manager

Kim Raine,
Employment Consultant

Ana Kolbach,
Youth Employment
Specialist

Support Services



Marybeth Carey,
Benefits Counselor



Rachel Knapp,
Assistive Technology Specialist

Debra Olivetti,
EAP Specialist

Support Staff



Holli Vidal,
Administrative Services
Coordinator



Shawnee Seaver,
Program Tech

VocRehab Vermont has a mission to...

- Help people with disabilities who live in Vermont prepare for, obtain, and maintain meaningful employment and pursue careers
- Help employers recruit, train, and retain employees with disabilities



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What is VocRehab?

- VocRehab is a voluntary program through the Agency of Human Services that supports individuals with disabilities to find and maintain employment and pursue careers
- VocRehab Counselors will work with you to identify jobs that are a good fit based on your previous work history, training, and interest areas

Eligibility

*Jobs &
Careers*

To be Eligible for VocRehab Services...

- You must have:
 - A chronic health or mental health condition that impacts your ability to find or maintain a job
- Your VocRehab Counselor will work with you to request medical information or other documentation that will help you qualify for our services
- Income and/or resources *do not* impact your ability to receive services

Jobs & Careers

- VocRehab works with all consumers to help them plan in both the short and long term
- We are here to help you find a job that pays the bills, along with helping you explore possible career paths that match your interests and may lead you to earning a higher wage

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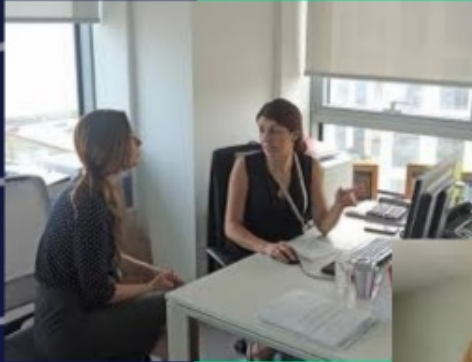
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*VocRehab Has a Variety
of Ways to Support Your
Path to Work!*



Partnership

Services

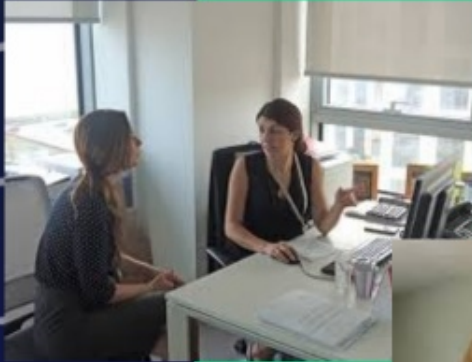


Partnership



Services

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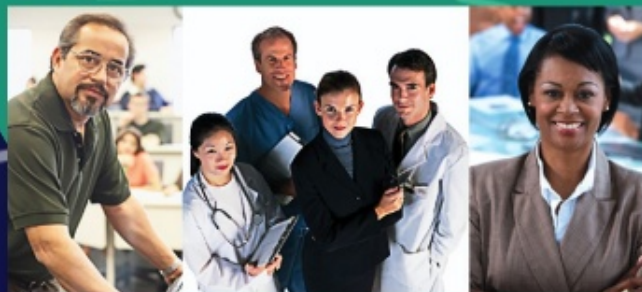


Partnership

Services

Why Do We Partner?

- VocRehab works with many agencies across the state to provide you with the most well-rounded employment supports
- These partners help us outreach to as many businesses as possible to find employment and training opportunities for our participants



VABIR

Creative
Workforce
Solutions

Department
of Labor

Agency of
Education



VABIR

the

VR & VABIR Work Together

- VABIR (Vermont Association of Business Industry and Rehabilitation) partners with VocRehab to provide you with individualized supports to help you meet your employment goal
- VABIR Employment Consultants are housed in the same office space as your VR Counselor
- Employment Consultants work with businesses in your community to identify job openings and potential training opportunities that could be a fit for you and your goals and will help you apply for and connect to any of them that you are interested in





CreativeWorkforceSolutions
An initiative of the Agency of Human Services

- CWS is designed to bring together local employment programs to help connect businesses and job seekers
- CWS teams work together to share labor market information, connect with interested businesses, and develop jobs and careers for people living in Vermont
- VocRehab and VABIR are both partners with CWS

Department of Labor

- VocRehab partners with the Department of Labor (DOL), another great resource for job seekers
- VocRehab and VABIR staff will often help participants connect to their local DOL office and create an account with their job search database called JobLink
- Some local employers will host hiring events at their local DOL office
- DOL may coordinate apprenticeship and training opportunities that could be a match for you



Partnering with Agency Of Education

- The Agency of Education (AOE) isn't just here to support students in elementary or high school. AOE works with a number of other educational providers to offer a wide range of education and training opportunities to youth and adults
- Your VocRehab Counselor will work with you to determine if any continuing education options may be a good fit to help you reach your employment goal

*Adult
Basic Ed*

*Career &
Technical
Education
Centers*

*Higher
Education*

VERMONT
AGENCY OF EDUCATION



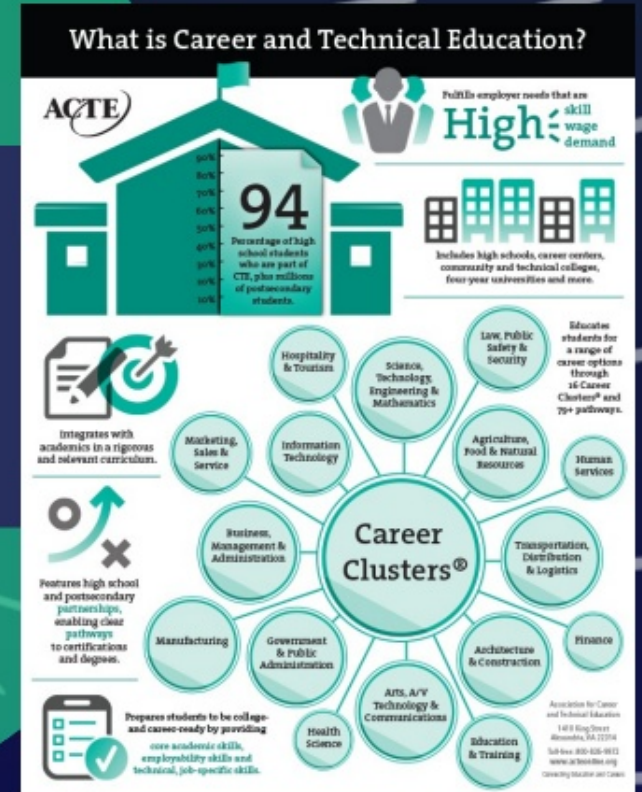
Adult Basic Ed

- GED or Adult Diploma
- High School Completion Program
 - Vermont Adult Learning
- English Language Learner Sites
- Partner with Strengthening Working Families Initiative
- Digital or Computer Literacy
- Improve Math and Reading Skills



Career & Technical Centers

- Career & Technical Education (CTE) Centers are not just for high school students
- Many CTE programs offer courses for adults where you can earn certificates such as:
 - LNA, CDL, Culinary, Welding, HVAC, Building Trades, Automotive

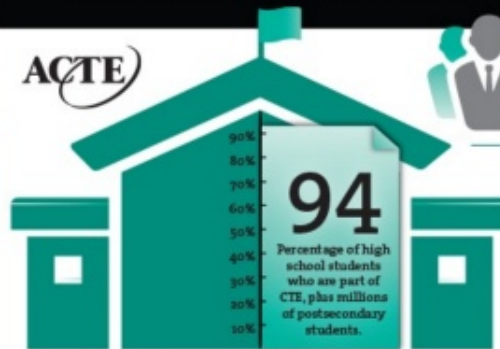


Education (CTE) Centers
 help students
 take courses for adults
 in trades such as:
 Welding, HVAC,
 Automotive

What is Career and Technical Education?



Fulfills employer needs that are
High skill wage demand



Includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more.



Integrates with academics in a rigorous and relevant curriculum.



Features high school and postsecondary partnerships, enabling clear pathways to certifications and degrees.



Prepares students to be college- and career-ready by providing core academic skills, employability skills and technical, job-specific skills.



Educates students for a range of career options through 16 Career Clusters® and 79+ pathways.

Association for Career and Technical Education
 1410 King Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 Toll-free: 800-426-9972
www.acteonline.org
 Connecting Education and Careers

Higher Education

You may be curious if higher education is a good fit for you. Your VocRehab Counselor can help you explore:

- Taking a course
- Enrolling in a degree program
- Earning industry recognized credentials

Services Available to You...

You and your counselor will work together to identify the services that are needed to reach your employment goal



Employee Assistance Program

Resume Development & Interview Prep

Career Exploration

Making YOUR Benefits Work for YOU

Assistive Technology



The Employee Assistance Program is here to help you!

- The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is designed to provide you with any supports you may need to become employed or stay employed
- Your VR counselor can refer you for services at any time
- Services are free and completely confidential
- Some of the services your EAP Counselor may offer are:
 - Support and guidance as you start your new job.
 - Legal and financial help
 - Childcare and elder-care resources
 - Family issues
 - Co-worker or supervisor issues
 - Transportation and housing issues
 - Short-term confidential counseling

We're Here to Help You Put All the Pieces Together!

VocRehab and VABIR staff will help you to:

- Create or update your resume
- Develop cover letters specific to jobs you and your team have identified
- Use practice interviews to improve your skills



Exploring Career Paths

VocRehab and VABIR partner with you to determine what types of work or training may be a good fit using a number of different tools...

- **Career Assessments** - VocRehab counselors have access to a number of online, paper and pencil, hands on and other forms of assessments that can help direct you to careers that match your interests and strengths
- **Progressive Employment** - short-term placement opportunities that allow you to try out a new work scenario, build valuable skills and experience, and show an employer what you can do
- **Progressive Education** - many of us haven't been in a classroom or training situation in quite some time but know that more education or training could help us earn more money. Progressive education gives you a chance to test out what continuing education might look like with no commitment

Career
Assessments

Progressive
Employment

Progressive
Education



Career Assessments

Why Assessments?

You may be unsure of what type of work you might like to do. Some reasons include:

- Limited work experience
- An injury or illness that prevents you from doing work you had in the past
- The desire to try something new

In these situations, VocRehab and VABIR staff can offer you a chance to take one or more career assessments to help guide your next steps.

Interest Assessment

Indicate your interest level for each activity below.

Activity	Strongly Dislike	Dislike	Unsure	Like	Strongly Like
1. Build kitchen cabinets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Develop a new medicine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Write books or plays	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Help people with personal or emotional problems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Manage a department within a large company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Install software across computers on a large network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Repair household appliances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Study ways to reduce water pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Compose or arrange music	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Give career guidance to people	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

◀ Back Page 1 of 3 Next ▶

**Take it
for a
Free SPIN**

Try Before Buy Service

Progressive Employment Activities Are Interactive Ways to Explore Career Opportunities...



- **Informational Interviews** provide a chance for you to meet with someone who does the type of work you may be interested in and to ask questions about what the job actually looks like
- **Job Shadows** allow you to spend time observing what a day in the life looks like for someone in a particular field
- **Work Experiences** are time limited, hands on opportunities for you to try out a specific job

You, your counselor and VABIR staff will work together to determine if and when any of these activities would be helpful for you



*Progressive Education
Activities Provide You with
the Chance to...*



- Observe or visit a class or training
- Audit a course or workshop
- Enroll in a course or program



Your Benefits & Work

Our Benefits Counselors are here to help you understand any benefits you are currently receiving. Once you are working with a VocRehab Counselor, you can request a referral to one of our Benefits Counselors who can help you to:

- Understand how work may or may not impact your current benefits
- Take advantage of work incentives that may be beneficial to you
- Explain notices you have received from SSA or ESD
- Learn how to report your earnings to SSA and ESD



Assistive Technology is probably already a part of your work day!

VERMONT
**ASSISTIVE
TECHNOLOGY**
PROGRAM

- Assistive Technology (AT) Specialists are here to help you identify tools that may help you with some of your tasks on the job
- Your VR Counselor can help connect you to an AT Specialist near you
- Some of the services they offer are:
 - General Information and Assistance
 - Equipment Demos
 - Equipment Loans
 - AT Reuse Program (public and schools)
 - Alternative Funding Information
 - Public Awareness
- These services are available at no cost to you!



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YOU Play the Most Important Role...

Our VocRehab and VABIR team is here to support you on your journey to work, and YOU play the most important role in your success.

Here's how you can get the most out of our partnership:

- Stay engaged
- Keep appointments - be prepared, follow up
- Communicate with your team both during and after meetings
- We welcome your questions



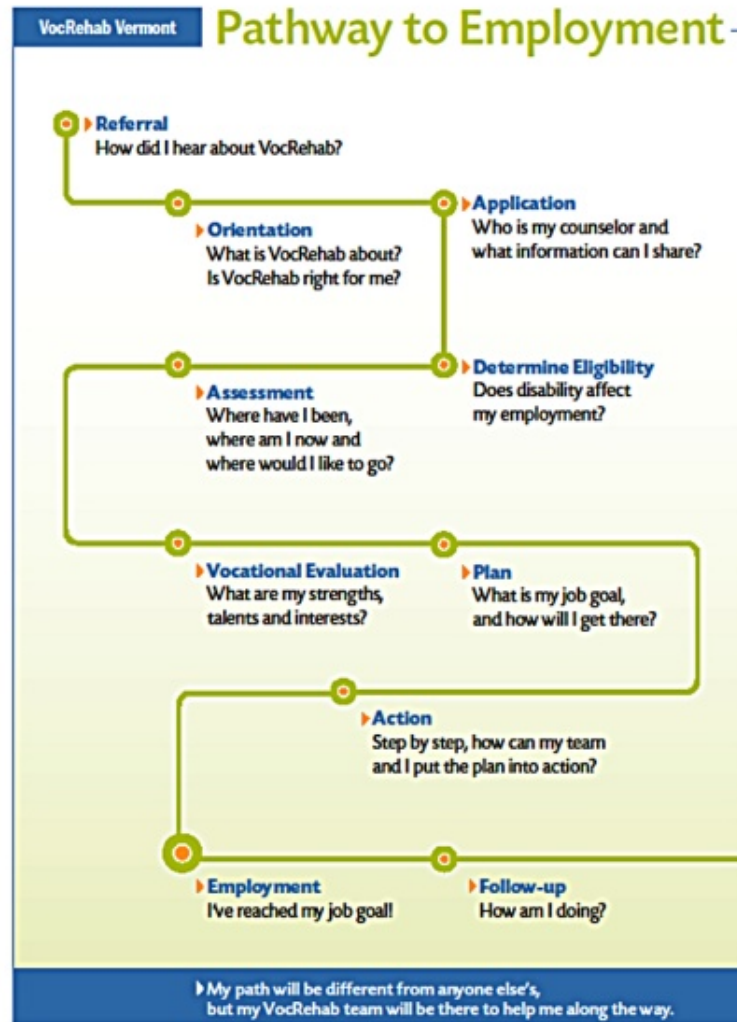
Next Steps

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Next Steps

Your office's next steps or workshop information here

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