

RI Department of Human Services
Office of Rehabilitation Services
STUDENT FACT SHEET

Students who have work experiences during high school are twice as likely to get a job and earn more money after they graduate.

The **Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)** is a state agency.

- Assists people with physical, learning, or emotional disabilities to choose employment goals and find employment.
- Helps you to prepare for work
- Works with you until you find and keep a job

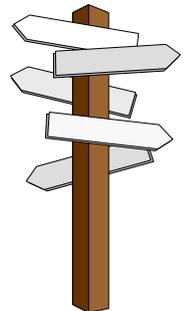


A “ Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor”

- Helps you to explore career options
- Has information about job choices
- Helps you choose a career goal
- Can help you get work experiences
- Knows about disabilities and how they effect work
- Helps you to learn how to be a good job applicant
- Helps you figure out what you need to get or keep a job
- Works for the Office of Rehabilitation Services

What are the steps? How do I find out more?

- 1) Talk to an ORS Counselor, attend an **Orientation** or visit **www.ors.ri.gov**
- 2) Decide if you are interested and Fill out an **Application** (you need parent’s signature if you are under 18)
- 3) **Eligibility:** The ORS Counselor will tell you if you are eligible (Your disability has to affect your ability to get and/or keep a job)
- 4) **Work with your school and ORS counselor to :**
 - Find out what you are interested in for work
 - Find out what it takes to be hired for that kind of work
 - Find out how you learn best and if you need job supports
- 5) **Write an Employment Plan** or “Individualized Plan for Employment”
 - Choose your work goal
 - Identify the steps you need to take to reach your work goal
 - Choose the services you will need to work successfully
 - Decide who will help you with each step in your path to employment



Ask your ORS counselor more about these services

- Guidance & Career Counseling
- Information About Careers & Resources
- Vocational Assessment & community Job Trials
- Work Preparation & Job Placement Services
- Vocational Training Or Skill Training
- On-The-Job Training
- Financial Assistance For Post Secondary Education (based on family financial need and application for federal financial aid)
- Rehabilitation Technology
- Supported Employment Services
- Referrals To Community Resources
- Assistance in finding and keeping a job

Work = Success