

A Journey through

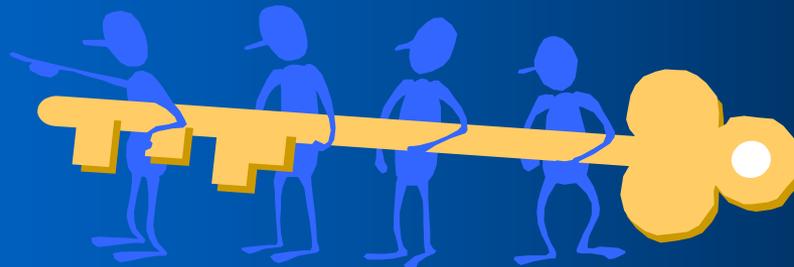
**LOUISIANA
REHABILITATION
SERVICES'
(LRS)**



Programs and Services

LRS ...

**under the umbrella of
LOUISIANA WORKFORCE
COMMISSION (LWC)**



Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Programs . . .

- Vocational Rehabilitation Program (Flagship)
- Randolph-Sheppard Program
- Independent Living Program (Part B & Older Blind)

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services' Mission

To assist persons with disabilities in their desire to obtain or maintain employment and/or to achieve independence in their communities by providing rehabilitation services and working cooperatively with business and other community services

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program



EMPLOYMENT for individuals
with disABILITIES

FOCUSES ON ABILITIES

**An eligibility program, not
an entitlement program**

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program...

Provides services to help persons with disabilities to obtain the job skills and other resources they need to

GET A JOB... KEEP A JOB... AND DEVELOP A CAREER!



Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

Vocational Rehabilitation, the flagship program of Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, is a one-stop career development program that offers individuals with disabilities a wide range of services designed to provide them with the skills, resources, attitudes, and expectations needed to compete in the interview process, get the job, keep the job, and develop a lifetime career.

LRS' VR Program



LRS' Vocational Rehabilitation Program provides comprehensive rehabilitation services that go far beyond those found in routine job training programs. This frequently includes work evaluation and job readiness services; assessment for and provision of assistive technology, such as customized computer interfaces for persons with physical or sensory disabilities; and job counseling services.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR VR?

Anyone who has a disability that causes problems in preparing for, finding, or keeping employment.



Who Do We Serve?

LRS serves individuals with a broad range of disabilities to include:

- Physical Disabilities
- Blindness
- Deafness
- Deaf-Blindness
- Mental Disabilities
- Learning Disabilities
- Traumatic Head/Brain Injury
- Developmental Disabilities
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Various other Disabilities

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- **Must have a disability** defined as a physical and/or mental impairment which for such an individual constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment; **and**
- **Can benefit** in terms of an **Employment** outcome from vocational rehabilitation services; **and**
- **Must require vocational rehabilitation** services to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain gainful employment.

Eligibility Criteria

To help speed up the eligibility process, we recommend that the individual bring the following information *(if available)*:

- **Medical, psychological or vocational reports**
- **Copy of transcripts or grades**
- **Resume of work history**



The Vocational Rehabilitation Process

- ✓ Intake/Client History
- ✓ Eligibility Determination
- ✓ Comprehensive Assessment
- ✓ Identification of Employment Goal
- ✓ Development of Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- ✓ Successful Employment
- ✓ Post Employment Services

ORDER OF SELECTION GROUPS

- **Selection Group I and II** – The Most Significantly Disabled
- **Selection Group III and IV** – Significantly Disabled
- **Selection Group V** – Non-Significantly Disabled

LRS currently is serving Selection Group I

Functional Capacity Areas

Placement in the Order of Selection is based on functional limitations or severity of disability in eight (8) functional capacity areas, which are as follows:

- **Mobility**
- **Motor Skills**
- **Communication**
- **Self-Care**
- **Self-Direction**
- **Interpersonal Skills**
- **Work Tolerance**
- **Work Skills**

Eligible Applicants

- Once the applicant/consumer has been determined eligible, a meeting is set up to write the Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- The consumer and the VR counselor who must agree on the final version.

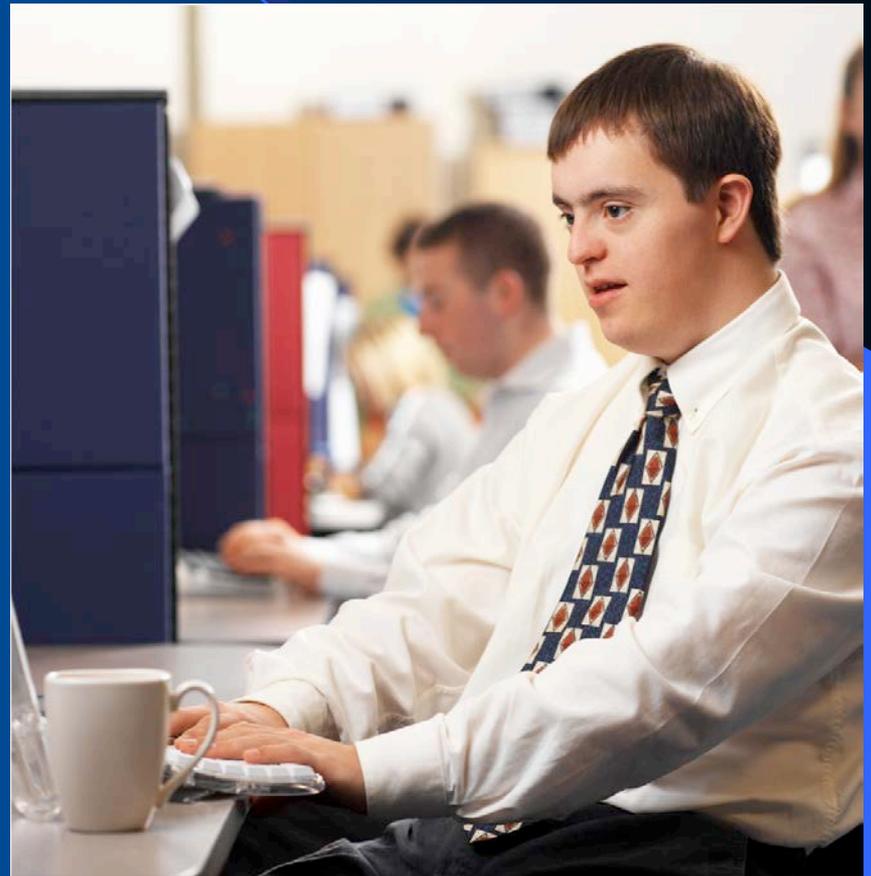
Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)

- Services are individualized to meet the employment needs as identified on the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) of the consumer
- Combines Counselor's expertise with the employment needs and choices of the consumer.
- Roadmap that results in gainful employment and independence for the consumer.



Vocational Goal

- Once the consumer has decided upon a specific employment goal, the IPE can then list in detail the VR services that are needed and who will pay for them.



VR Services

- **SERVICES** . . .clear linkage between the provision of service(s) and the potential for the consumer to achieve gainful employment
- * **Vocational Guidance and Career Counseling**
- * **Primary Mental and/or Physical Restoration**
- * **Vocational and other Training Services**
- * **Rehabilitation Technology (including Assistive Technology Devices and Services and Rehabilitation Engineering)**

VR Services (Continued)

- **Supported Employment**
- **On-the-Job Training Services (OJT)**
- **Personal Assistance Services, such as PCA, Scribe, Reader, and Interpreter**
- **Recruitment and Training Services**
- **Establishment of a Small Business Enterprise**
- **Vehicle Modifications**
- **Transportation to Access other VR Services**
- **Job Placement and Suitable Employment**

Financial Criteria

- **Some services are based on economic criteria:**
 - Tuition for training
 - Books and Supplies
 - Transportation
 - Equipment & tools to do a job
- **Other services are not based on economic criteria:**
 - Vocational Guidance & Counseling
 - Supported Employment
 - Job Placement
 - Assistive Technology

“Job Placement” Services...



- On-the-Job-Training
- Small Business Enterprise
- Direct Job Placement
- Supported Employment Services
- On-Site Training Services
- Employer Incentives

Supported Employment Services

Designed to provide community-based
employment

(competitive employment in integrated setting)
for LRS Consumers who are the most
significantly disabled

Selection Groups I and II

Supported Employment Core Services

- Community-based Assessment
- Job Development
- Job placement
- Job coaching/training
- Job stabilization/Fading/Follow-along.

Employment Model Initiative

- LRS is currently engaged in an effort to shift the Vocational Rehabilitation program from a “services model” to an “employment model”

Reasons for the Shift the Focus

- Office of Workforce Development -
“We put people to work”
- LRS’ budget has significantly decreased over the years and it is critical that funds are used to maximize employment
- **Focusing on employment is the right thing to do for the *consumer***
- Focusing on employment is the right thing for *employers*

THE TRANSITION PROCESS

VR Counselors are assigned to schools within their region in order to provide:

- Consultation to students and families
- Outreach information
- Technical assistance to schools
- Participation in IEP meetings if staff is available, particularly during the last year of education
- Participation in planning & coordination of services
- Establishing eligibility for the VR program



Transition Students – Who Are They?

- A transition student is an individual, who at the time of application for vocational rehabilitation services is a student with a disability who has an active Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in place and has been coded as receiving special education on the RSA-911.

Who Can Refer?

- **Individual (self)**
- **Parents / Family Members**
- **Guidance Counselor or teacher**
- **Organization or agency that helps people with disabilities (Independent Living Centers, OCDD, Families Helping Families, etc.)**
- **One-Stop Employment Centers**
- **Others**

Transition from School to Work

- The term, vocational rehabilitation services for transition students, means a coordinated set of vocational rehabilitation services for students, designed within an outcome-oriented process, that promotes movement from school to post school activities, including:



Transition from School to Work

- Postsecondary education
- Vocational training
- Integrated employment (including supported employment)
- Continuing and adult education
- If appropriate, referral to available continuing and adult education, adult services,
- Independent living or community participation

VR Referral Process

- Referral is made to your LRS Regional Office
- Appointments are usually made within 30 days of receiving the referral.
- Eligibility decisions are required within 60 days from the date of the application.
- Planning is typically done within 90 days from the date of eligibility.

LOUISIANA REHABILITATION SERVICES

REGION 7

800-737-2973

Shreveport Regional Office

1525 Fairfield, Suite 708
Shreveport, LA 71104
318-676-7155 (office)
318-676-7175 (fax)
lrshrv@dss.state.la.us

REGION 6

800-520-0578

Alexandria Regional Office

900 Murray Street, Rm. H-100
Alexandria, LA 71309
318-487-5335 (office)
318-487-5366 (fax)
lralex@dss.state.la.us

REGION 5

800-520-0589

Lake Charles Regional Office

3616 Kirkman Street
Lake Charles, LA 70607
337-475-8038 (office)
337-475-8037 (fax)
lrsc@dss.state.la.us

REGION 4

800-520-0567

Lafayette Regional Office

825 Kalliste Saloom Road
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-262-5353 (office)
337-262-5727 (fax)
lrstaf@dss.state.la.us

REGION 3

800-590-5762

Thibodaux Regional Office

1442 Tiger Drive
Thibodaux, LA 70301
985-447-0809 (office)
985-449-5006 (fax)
lrsthib@dss.state.la.us

REGION 8

800-737-2973

Monroe Regional Office

122 St. John Street
Monroe, LA 71201
318-362-3232 (office)
318-362-3223 (fax)
lrmon@dss.state.la.us

REGION 2

800-737-2959

Baton Rouge Regional Office

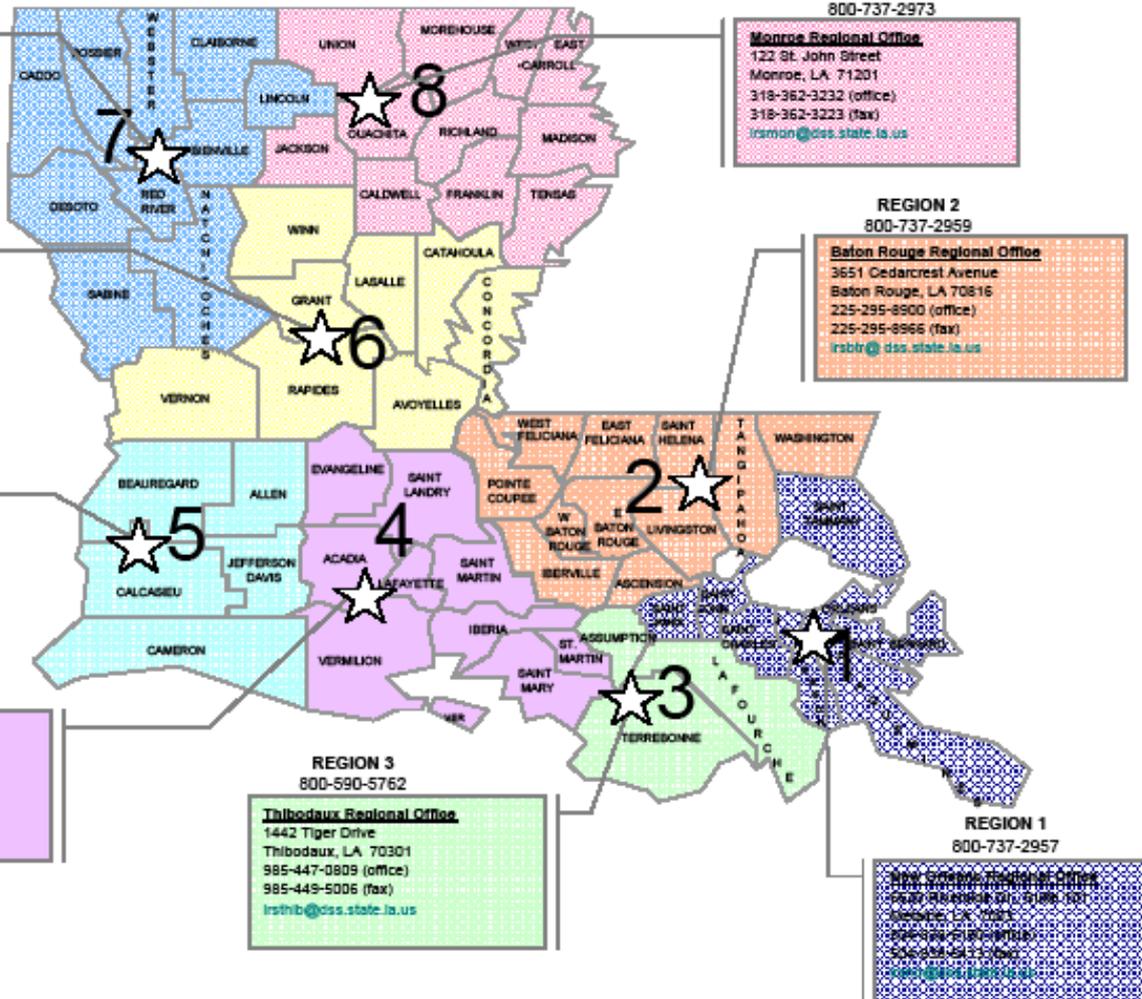
3651 Cedarcrest Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
225-295-8900 (office)
225-295-8966 (fax)
lrabr@dss.state.la.us

REGION 1

800-737-2957

New Orleans Regional Office

6542 Lakeside Drive, Suite 101
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-586-5100 (office)
504-586-5111 (fax)
lrnewor@dss.state.la.us



Regional Office Addresses

NEW ORLEANS REGION - I II

New Orleans Regional Office
6620 Riverside Drive, Suite 101
Metairie, LA 70003
(504) 838-5180 (office)
(504) 483-5413 (fax)
1(800) 737-2957 1(800) 737-2959

Serves: Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemine,
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St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James,
St. John, St. Tammany

BATON ROUGE REGION -

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Regional Office Addresses

THIBODAUX REGION – III

Thibodaux Regional Office
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Thibodaux, LA 70301-4337
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(985) 449-5006 (fax)
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LAFAYETTE REGION - IV

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(337) 262-5727 (fax)
1(800) 520-0587

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Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin
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Regional Office Addresses

LAKE CHARLES REGION - V

Lake Charles Regional Office

3616 Kirkman Street

Lake Charles, LA 70607

(337) 475-8038 (office)

(337) 475-8037 (fax)

1(800) 520-0589

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Cameron, Jefferson Davis

ALEXANDRIA REGION - VI

Alexandria Regional Office

P.O. Box 632

Alexandria, LA 71309-0632

Physical address:

900 Murray Street, Suite H-100

Alexandria, LA 71301

(318) 487-5335 (office)

(318) 487-5366 (fax)

1(800) 520-0578

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Concordia, Grant, LaSalle,
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Regional Office Addresses

SHREVEPORT - VII

Shreveport Regional Office

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Shreveport, LA 71101

(318) 676-7155 (office)

(318) 676-7176 (fax)

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Webster, Natchitoches, Lincoln
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MONROE - VIII

Monroe Regional Office

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Monroe, LA 71201

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1(800)737-2973

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Richland, Ouachita, Union,
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Questions / Comments??



WEBSITE

For additional information go to:

www.laworks.net

Click :

Workforce Development (located at the top)

then

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services

This Concludes Your LRS Journey

Thank you

and

Make It An Excellent Day!!!

