

Transition Services

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DRS Transition Services

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Work and Life After High School

Connect











3 Years Prior to Exit

- . Meet with a DRS counselor
- Apply for DRS services
- Discover community resources



2 Years Prior to Exit

- · Assess your skills
- Discover your interests



- · Develop a career plan
- · Get work experience
- · Learn self-advocacy



Explore postsecondary

- options
- Become employed
- · Gain independence
- · Reach your goals!

- · Identify your career options



Get Connected

DRS Transition Services supports students as they move from high school to the world of work and adult life.

The Division of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) collaborates with high school students with disabilities, their families, schools and community service providers to support this transition, providing:

- Outreach and resources
- Education and training
- · Individual consultations

DRS' Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program offers high school students a variety of employment-related services and resources that may include:

- Career counseling
- Vocational evaluation
- Job training options
- · Job placement, retention and follow up
- Assistive technology
- Community-based services

Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center's (WWRC)
Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition (PERT) program
may assess students on:

- · Vocational strengths and abilities
- Independent living skills
- · Social and interpersonal skills
- Medical rehabilitation needs
- Driving capabilities

WWRC offers vocational training programs and services to prepare those over age 18 for employment and/or other career development goals. Learn more about WWRC at wwrc.virginia.gov and DRS at vadars.org.

Start Early. Ask Questions.



www.vadars.org facebook.com/vadars 800-552-5019



What are my rights?

- To apply for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services from DARS
- To receive notification in writing if you are denied a service or support you believe you need in order to have successful employment
- To appeal to your counselor's supervisor and request an Informal Administrative Review (IAR) if your requested service/support is denied
- To appeal to the Regional Director if your requested service/support is still denied
- To request Mediation or a Fair Hearing after you appeal to the Regional Director
 - Mediation is a confidential process where a neutral person trained in mediation techniques helps resolve disputes between you and DBVI
 - During a Fair Hearing, both you and DBVI may present evidence and witnesses, and the hearing officer will issue a written decision after the hearing is finished
- To make a direct complaint to the DARS Commissioner if you choose

How can dLCV help?

- Answer questions and explain your rights regarding the vocational rehabilitation process and DARS
- Help you work through your concerns with DARS staff
- Potentially represent your legal interests in negotiations, mediation, or the formal hearing process

Social Security Disability 2014 Thresholds

Substantial Gainful Activity	2014
(SGA)	per month
Non-Blind	\$1070
Blind	\$1800
Trial Work Period (TWP)	\$770

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Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Federal Payment Standard:	2014 per month
Individual	\$720
Couple	\$1082

SSI Student Earned Income	2014
Exclusion	per month
Monthly Limit	\$1750
Annual Limit	\$7060

- IRWE
- Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWEs) are items and services which, because of impairment, a person needs and uses in order to work.
- The Three-Part Test for an IRWE:
- The individual with a disability must pay for the item or service.
- The item or service must be related to the person's disability.
- If the person did not spend the money and receive the item or service, he or she would not be able to work.











Student Earned Income Exclusion

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• If you are under age 22 and regularly attending school, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) will not count up to \$1,750 of earned income per month when SSI calculates your payment amount. The maximum yearly exclusion is \$7,060. These amounts are for the year 2014; they are adjusted each year based on the cost-of-living.

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 "Regularly attending school" means that you take one or more courses of study and attend classes:

- In a college or university for at least 8 hours a week; or
- In grades 7-12 for at least 12 hours a week; or
- In a training course to prepare for employment for at least 12 hours a week (15 hours a week if the course involves shop practice); or
- For less time for reasons beyond the student's control, for example illness.

What is an overpayment?

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• An overpayment occurs when SSA sends you a Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit check that they should not have sent to you or sends you an amount that is more than what you should have received. This usually happens because of a change in your life.

What might cause an overpayment?

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- Getting married
- A change in your living situation
- Change in disability
- Change in your resources
- Failure to tell SSA when you return to work, or when your pay increases

What happens if I receive an overpayment?

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• SSA will notify you of the overpayment and ask you for a full refund of the overpayment within 30 days.

How can I avoid an overpayment from SSA?

- Let SSA know if you have a change in your disability, living situation, or marital status
- Let SSA know when you go to work and how much you are making
- Report all changes to SSA on time and as required
- Show SSA your pay stubs and any Impairment Related Work Expenses (IRWEs) on a monthly basis
 - An IRWE is something that you need because of your disability, that you pay for yourself, that allows you to work
 - Examples of IRWEs include:
 - Copayments on prescription medications or doctor visits
 - Paying a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) out of your own pocket to help you with work activities or getting ready for work
 - Service animal expenses
 - Assistive Technology that you pay for yourself for use on your job

- What are my rights?
- If you receive an overpayment notice but believe you were not overpaid, you may:
- Ask for a **Waiver** of the overpayment
- Request a Reconsideration
- Ask for an Appeal
- Request a Review
- File a Court Action

How can the disAbility Law Center of Virginia (dLCV) help?

- Answer questions and explain your rights regarding SSI and SSDI benefits and your rights to appeal an overpayment notice
- Assist you in requesting a waiver of overpayment
- Help you file the correct forms at any stage of the appeals process
- Potentially represent your legal interests hearings before the ALJ, Appeals Council, or in federal court

Thank you

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