

# **Job Foundation Frequently Asked Questions Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**

## **DRAFT**

### **What is the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)?**

DVR is a state agency within the Department of Social and Health Services that is responsible for providing Vocational services to individuals with any qualifying disability needing assistance to obtain and maintain competitive employment.

### **How does DVR and Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) work together?**

DDA and DVR work in partnership providing vocational supports specifically to individuals with developmental disabilities. DVR is the first resource for job placement, and intensive training. DDA provides the long-term support needed for the individual to maintain employment after the job is stabilized thru DVR services. DDA and DVR work closely together to maximize resources from both agencies in support of the individual on their pathway to employment.

### **What services are available thru DVR?**

DVR provides services that support an individual to obtain and maintain employment. In addition to vocational counseling and job placement services, DVR can provide a variety of other services to address barriers to employment. Examples include, benefits planning, Independent Living, Assistive Technology.

### **What employment services are available thru DDA?**

DDA provides long term supports for individuals needing support to maintain employment. In addition to long term supports, DDA can provide Individual Technical Assistance to support an individual that is stuck on their pathway to employment. DDA can also provide discovery and job placement services when DVR services are unavailable.

### **Why is it important to access DVR services?**

Waiver funding requires that available resources be accessed prior to utilizing Waiver services. More importantly, DVR has additional services not provided by DDA that can support the individual on their pathway to employment. These services are not available to the individual if they are not enrolled in DVR.

### **When do I access DVR thru Job Foundation?**

The expectation is for Counties to notify DVR when a student is enrolled in Job Foundation. DVR will assign a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) to the team and work with the employment provider and school to connect with the student to enroll them in DVR. The VRC is an active member of the team and can be a resource in the development of the Job Foundation report and recommendations.

### **What are Extended Services?**

Extended Support services are utilized when a student becomes stable in employment but has not become eligible for long term supports through DDA or another funding source for long term Support.

### **Is Job Foundation required to access DVR services?**

No, Job Foundation is not required to access DVR services. Job Foundation is a pilot program and not available in all Counties. It requires the student to be enrolled in school. Job Foundation is specific to students in their second to last year of school transition services. Job Foundation may not be available to all students. However, DVR services are available to all qualified individuals whether enrolled in school, job foundation or not.

### **How can I find the VR counselor assigned to my school district?**

The DVR website maintains a list of DVR staff assigned to school districts. [Find a School Transition Counselor | DSHS \(wa.gov\)](#)