

What do these people have in common?

- Albert Einstein
- Thomas Edison
- Jay Leno
- Walt Disney
- Patrick Dempsey
- John Lennon
- Tom Cruise
- Robin Williams
- Whoopie Goldberg
- Alexander Graham Bell
- Jewel
- Cher
- Danny Glover

Answer:

- They are all famous people with learning disabilities.

Individualized Educational Plan

- Many people identify their learning styles through their school IEP. What happens after graduation when the IEP is gone?

No more IEPs. . .

- Learning more about your disability will empower you to reach your goals.
- Assistance is available for every stage of life.
- Taking the initiative to seek out support and services that can provide help is the first step to overcoming challenges related to your disability.

Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS)

- DRS is a state-federal program that offers assistance to persons with disabilities in their pursuit of employment.
- DRS helps them move towards independence and self-sufficiency through a variety of services.

Eligibility Information

- Must be legally eligible to work in the U.S.
- Student must have a documented cognitive, mental or physical disability that presents a barrier to employment.
- Expectation that the student can benefit from services in terms of employment.
- The student requires the services of the agency to go to work.

What can DRS do for Students?

- Services are provided on an individual basis depending on what the student needs in order to obtain gainful employment.
- Transitional Planning – the Rehabilitation Counselor can assist the student in planning for their future in terms of employment. This is done through a variety of service options.

Services: Vocational Planning

- Individualized Plan for Employment – Agreements you and your counselor make are put in writing.
- This plan includes:
 - Your job goal and date for reaching goal
 - Services and service providers
 - Estimated costs and funding sources
 - Progress measures

Services: Career Counseling

- Career Assessment – Student explores areas of interest and evaluates vocational potential through:
 - Hands-on work samples
 - Career exploration
 - Vocational counseling
 - Vocational Evaluation

Services: Training

- College/Vocational Training – The DRS counselor and the student may explore a variety of post-secondary training options. Training options may include:
 - Formal course work (pursue college degree)
 - Vocational skills training
 - Unpaid work experiences
 - On-the-job training
 - Supported employment (job coaching services)

Services: Job Seeking/Job Readiness Training

- DRS offers individual and small group programs which focus on career exploration, job seeking & job readiness activities such as:
 - Assessments - interest inventories, aptitude testing, learning styles, etc...
 - Interview techniques
 - Resume-writing
 - Job keeping skills

Services: Employment

- Your counselor will assist you in finding a job, securing a job and maintaining the job.
- Follow up – these services are provided for approximately three months after the start of employment.

The final goal is successful employment!

And more services...

Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center

- Provides integrated vocational rehabilitation services addressing the comprehensive needs of clients to improve independence and employability.
- The Center offers state of the art equipment and facilities, a professional, committed staff, and highly effective programs.

WWRC Services

- Medical Rehabilitation Services
 - Therapy Evaluations & Treatment (OT, PT, Speech, & Hearing Services)
 - Driving Evaluation and Training
 - Medical Specialty Services (Physical Medicine & Rehab, Behavioral Health, Neuropsychology, Rehabilitation Nursing)
 - Assistive Technology (Adaptive Communication, Adaptive Computer Use, Environmental Controls, Home/School/Work Accessibility, Wheelchair Seating & Mobility, etc)
 - Brain Injury Services (Evaluation Clinic, Cognitive Training, Community Transition, Independent Living, etc)
 - Spinal Cord Program (Evaluation, Post-acute Rehabilitation, Independent Living, etc)

WWRC Services (cont)

- Vocational Services
 - Life Skills Transition Program
 - Career Assessments
 - Vocational Training
 - Academic Support
 - Community Based Training
 - Student Internships

WWRC Services (cont)

- Student Life

- Residential Services allows clients the opportunity to enhance social skills, independent living skills, and overall health and wellness.

Assistive Technology:

- DRS is committed to assisting students with disabilities reach their full potential with the use of adaptive equipment, reasonable accommodations, and other AT resources including:
 - Virginia Assistive Technology System
 - Rehabilitation Engineering
 - Computer Accommodations

Referral information:

- Cooperative Agreement with Fairfax County Public Schools
- If you are a student in high school you can be referred by your teacher, ETR other staff in the school.
- Self referral – you can call for yourself and make the referral.
- Other professionals – can call and refer you to DRS at any time.

Northern Virginia DRS Offices

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Fredericksburg 540-899-4053

Leesburg 703-771-4775

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