Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) is here to help you. If you are an eligible individual with a disability, IVRS will work closely with you to develop a tailored plan to obtain your employment goal. Whether you are a student or a seasoned professional, a farmer or an executive, IVRS is your valued partner in finding solutions and generating success.

How do I apply?
Referral or application for Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services may be made by contacting any of the area offices or service centers located throughout the state. Rehabilitation counselors may also be contacted during their regular visits to other state and local government offices, or to the secondary schools within your local community.

Am I eligible?
Are you having difficulty getting or keeping a job due to a disability? Our professional counselors and staff are qualified to assess your eligibility for services and help you identify occupations, community organizations and resources you need to meet your employment goals.

If I am in high school, can I participate in services?
If you are a high school student with a disability, IVRS, in collaboration with high school teachers and community partners, can provide you with Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). Pre-ETS provides opportunities for students to learn about career and training options as well as build work and self-advocacy skills. If you need specialized rehabilitation services in order to transition to job training and/or work after high school, you will be encouraged to apply for IVRS Services.

The Vocational Rehabilitation program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For Federal fiscal year 2021, the total amount of grant funds awarded were $27,334,802. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs were funded by state appropriations and other non-federal allowable sources.

For TTY, call Iowa Relay at 711 or 1-800-735-2942, and ask for the number you wish to contact.
Social Security and Supplemental Security Income

Disability Determination Services Bureau (DDS) is responsible for determining the eligibility of Iowa residents who apply for disability benefits under the Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income programs.

http://www.ssa.gov/

Employer’s Disability Resource Network (EDRN)

Proud partner of your Iowa resource for recruitment and retention of employees with disabilities.

http://www.edrnetwork.org/

Our staff of professionals are focused on your success

Employment is the objective for each individual served by Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS). Eligible individuals receive counseling and guidance in choosing a vocational goal consistent with their interests and abilities. An employment plan is jointly developed by the individual and the rehabilitation counselor that summarizes the individual’s job goal, services needed to achieve employment, how services will be obtained and how and when progress will be measured.

A network of resources to support your efforts

By partnering with your IVRS counselor, you’ll be connected with various public and private services and resources that can help you reach your employment goal. These include:

- Secondary and Post-Secondary institutions to coordinate academic and vocational training opportunities.
- Medical and rehabilitation specialists to design a treatment program to help manage your disability.
- Employers to ensure a solid employee/employer relationship once you find a job.

Each individual requires various resources to be successfully employed. That is why IVRS develops strong relationships with organizations that can assist us in delivering on our mission—finding solutions and generating success.

What services are available?

- Medical and psychological assessment
- Technological assessment
- Vocational assessment
- Counseling and guidance
- Transition services for students
- Physical and/or mental restoration services that may include therapy, wheelchairs, hearing aids, etc.
- Special adaptive equipment or devices
- Training for employment
- Occupational tools, equipment or licenses
- Planning for Self-Employment
- Personal assistance
- Supported Employment
- Job coaching
- Job placement
- Follow-up after placement to assist with work and employer satisfaction

Services may be provided after employment to help you maintain your job.

Independent Living

The IVRS Independent Living Program provides a variety of services to assist individuals with significant disabilities, who do not have a vocational goal, to live independently in their community. It is an individualized process where the Independent Living Program Specialist and the client work together to determine an independent living plan to achieve the desired goals. For more information please call 563-880-1350 or 712-262-9585, ext 3.

Supported Employment

Supported Employment services are provided to those eligible for IVRS services with the most significant disabilities, who require ongoing support services to work.

Iowa Self-Employment Program

Self-Employment services are available to those eligible for IVRS Services who are able to become self-sufficient by establishing, expanding or acquiring a business within the state of Iowa.

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income

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http://www.ssa.gov/

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