

### **Allentown BVRS**

45 North Fourth Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-821-6441 Voice — 800-922-9536 Voice  
610-821-6144 TTY — 888-377-9207 TTY

### **Altoona BVRS**

1130 12th Avenue — Suite 500  
Altoona, PA 16601  
814-946-7240 Voice — 814-949-7913 TTY  
800-442-6343 Voice — 866-320-7955 TTY

### **Altoona BBVS**

1130 12th Avenue — Suite 300  
Altoona, PA 16601  
814-946-7330 Voice — 866-695-7973 Voice  
814-949-7956 TTY — 866-320-7956 TTY

### **DuBois BVRS**

199 Beaver Drive  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-371-7340 Voice — 800-922-4017 Voice/TTY  
814-371-7505 TTY

### **Erie BVRS**

3200 Lovell Place  
Erie, PA 16503  
814-871-4551 Voice — 800-541-0721 Voice  
814-871-4535 TTY — 888-217-1710 TTY

### **Erie BBVS**

4200 Lovell Place  
Erie, PA 16503  
814-871-4401 Voice — 866-521-5073 Voice  
814-871-4599 TTY — 888-884-5513 TTY

### **Harrisburg BVRS**

Forum Place — 555 Walnut St. — 8th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-787-7834 Voice — 800-442-6352 Voice  
717-787-4013 TTY — 877-497-6545 TTY

### **Harrisburg BBVS**

Forum Place — 555 Walnut St. — 8th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-787-7500 Voice — 866-375-8264 Voice  
717-787-1733 TTY — 888-575-9420 TTY

### **Johnstown BVRS**

727 Goucher Street — Section 10  
Johnstown, PA 15905  
814-255-6771 Voice — 800-762-4223 Voice  
814-255-5510 TTY — 866-862-6891 TTY

### **New Castle BVRS**

100 Margaret Street  
New Castle, PA 16101  
724-656-3070 Voice — 800-442-6379 Voice  
724-656-3252 TTY — 888-870-4476 TTY

### **Norristown BVRS**

1875 New Hope Street  
Norristown, PA 19401  
484-250-4340 Voice — 800-221-1042 Voice  
484-250-4357 TTY — 888-616-0470 TTY

### **Philadelphia BVRS**

444 North 3rd St. — 5th Floor — Philadelphia, PA 19123  
215-560-1900 Voice — 800-442-6381 Voice  
215-560-6144 TTY — 800-772-9031 TTY

### **Philadelphia BBVS**

444 North 3rd St. — 5th Floor — Philadelphia, PA 19123  
215-560-5700 Voice — 866-631-3892 Voice  
215-560-5725 TTY — 888-870-4473 TTY

### **Pittsburgh BVRS**

531 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-392-4950 Voice — 800-442-6371 Voice  
412-770-2802 TTY — 888-870-4474 TTY

### **Pittsburgh BBVS**

531 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-565-5240 Voice — 866-412-4072 Voice  
412-565-3678 TTY — 877-255-5082 TTY

### **Reading BVRS**

3602 Kutztown Road — Suite 200  
Reading, PA 19605  
610-621-5800 Voice — 800-442-0949 Voice  
610-621-5820 TTY — 877-475-7326 TTY

### **Washington BVRS**

201 West Wheeling Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
724-223-4430 Voice — 800-442-6367 Voice  
724-223-4443 TTY — 866-752-6163 TTY

### **Wilkes-Barre BVRS**

300 G Laird Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-7013  
570-826-2011 Voice — 800-634-2060 Voice  
570-826-2023 TTY — 888-651-6117 TTY

### **Wilkes-Barre BBVS**

300 G Laird Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-7013  
570-826-2361 Voice — 866-227-4163 Voice  
570-826-2023 TTY — 888-651-6117 TTY

### **Williamsport BVRS**

The Grit Building — Suite 102 — 208 West Third St.  
Williamsport, PA 17701  
570-327-3600 Voice — 800-442-6359 Voice  
570-327-3620 TTY — 800-706-0884 TTY

### **York BVRS**

2550 Kingston Road — Suite 101  
York, PA 17402  
717-771-4407 Voice — 800-762-6306 Voice  
717-666-7301 Video Phone

**BVRS - Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

**BBVS - Bureau of Blindness & Visual Services**

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### **Hiram G. Andrews Center**

727 Goucher Street — Johnstown, PA 15905  
814-255-8200 Voice — 800-762-4211 Voice  
814-255-0230 TTY  
www.hgac.org

# **PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION**

# **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Tom Wolf, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
Kathy Manderino, Secretary

OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION  
David DeNotaris, Executive Director



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

www.dli.pa.gov, PA Keyword: OVR

*Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to  
individuals with disabilities.  
Equal Opportunity Employer/Program*



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## What Is OVR?

The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) serves people with disabilities that present a substantial impediment to their employment. Services are provided to individuals who can benefit from and who need assistance to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain employment.

Vocational rehabilitation is a direct service program provided through 21 district offices located throughout the commonwealth.

The federal and state governments work in partnership to fund the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Since 1919, Pennsylvania has provided rehabilitation services to thousands of people with disabilities as a legal right and a public service.

Disabilities include but are not limited to:

- Alcoholism
- Amputation
- Diabetes
- Drug addiction
- Epilepsy
- Head trauma
- Heart disease
- Mental illness
- Muscular disease
- Visual impairments
- Developmental disabilities
- Hearing impairment
- Learning disabilities
- Intellectual disability
- Neurological disease
- Respiratory disease
- Skeletal & joint disease
- Speech impairment
- Spinal cord injury

## Who Is Eligible For Services?

Important factors determining eligibility are:

- A physical or mental disability causes an impediment to employment and there exists an ability to benefit from services.
- The need for services to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain gainful employment.

A vocational rehabilitation counselor will determine eligibility for services after gaining a thorough understanding of an individual's abilities, limitations, interests, and aptitudes. Services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

## What Services Can OVR Offer?

Rehabilitation services are provided in an individualized manner. Eligible persons receive the particular services they need to become employable.

Services may include:

**DIAGNOSIS** - evaluating medical, psychological, occupational and educational abilities, and limitations.

**COUNSELING & GUIDANCE** - helping individuals select vocational goals and making plans to attain them.

**RESTORATION** - providing comprehensive medical, psychological, and allied services to minimize the effect of the impairment on a person's ability to work.

**TRAINING** - developing job skills through vocational and technical schools, universities, on-the-job training, or job coaching.

**HIRAM G. ANDREWS CENTER** - offering comprehensive rehabilitation services including: vocational assessment, training, and medical services on a residential or commuting basis.

**PLACEMENT** - developing job seeking skills and locating employment opportunities.

**POST EMPLOYMENT SERVICES** - aiding in job adjustment.

OVR counselors are aware of many resources that might be of assistance to persons with impairments and will help customers learn about other programs available to them. During the rehabilitation process, OVR can also help provide attendant care, interpreters for the deaf, and similar support services.

## The Rehabilitation Plan

Together, the customer and counselor develop an individualized plan for employment (IPE). The IPE states exactly what services will be provided and what is expected of both the customer and the agency, including responsibilities and costs.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program is an individualized process. Each individual has unique problems that require understanding, imagination, patience, and ingenuity for a solution. Services are offered with respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual.

## Who Pays For Services?

There is no charge for diagnostic services, counseling, and job placement assistance. However, a customer may be required to share the cost of the other services after a financial needs assessment is completed. Any financial obligations will be discussed with the customer before the initiation of services.

## Confidentiality of Information

The information shared with the counselor is confidential. A customer's written permission must be obtained before any information can be released to others.

## How To Apply

Referrals to OVR can be made by agencies, schools, clergy, hospitals, families or any interested individuals. To apply for services, contact the district office (listed on the back page) nearest you.

## OVR's Non-Discrimination Policy

OVR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin, sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry, HIV/AIDS status and age. Any applicant or customer of OVR who believes he or she is being discriminated against may contact OVR at the following address:

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation  
1521 North Sixth Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102  
Telephone 717-787-5244 Voice, 717-787-4885 TTY,  
800-442-6351\* Voice, 866-830-7327\* TTY  
BBVS 717-787-6176 Voice, 800-622-2842\* Voice

\*Toll free within Pennsylvania