

How long does it take to find out if I am eligible?

It may take up to 60 days, but you can speed up the process by bringing the following materials to your first appointment:

- Medical records;
- Psychological records;
- Workers' Compensation records;
- Social Security records;
- Drug and alcohol treatment records;
- Armed Forces service records;
- Parole and probation records;
- Any records that say what your disability is and if the disability prevents you from doing any work-related activities

OVRs can help you get these records. If there is a charge to get the above records, provide OVRs with a complete list of doctors, psychologists, or agencies that can verify your disability. The list should include the full name, mailing address and phone number of each reference.

Other things you can do:

- Provide a complete work history (or resume), including job duties.
- Talk to your counselor about your disability and how it prevents you from working.
- Ask if there are any forms you can complete ahead of time.
- Complete any exams or tests needed.
- Begin to think about the type of work you can do and want to do.

Oregon Client Assistance Program

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Upon request this publication can be furnished in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities by contacting: the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, telephone: 503-945-5880.

Available formats are: large print, Braille, audio tape recording, electronic format and oral presentation.

Your partner to employment



Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRs)

OVRs, a federal program administered by states, helps people with disabilities find employment. In Oregon, it is part of the Department of Human Services (DHS).

How can I qualify for the OVRs program?

You qualify if:

- You have a verified physical or mental disability (e.g., a learning disability or orthopedic condition);
- The disability prevents you from getting or keeping a job; and
- You need services that OVRs can provide to help you get or keep a job.

What services can I receive from OVRs if I am eligible?

- Vocational counseling and help in setting a job goal;
- Evaluations to determine job skills and interests;
- Help with job interview skills;
- Help in finding a job;
- Training or education, if needed, to help find a job;
- Special equipment or technology that may help you to hold a job (e.g., tools or special work clothing);

- Help in getting to training or job sites; and
- On-the-job training.

Who pays for the OVRs program?

There is no cost to you to find out if you are eligible. Other services are paid for from other sources including:

- **Oregon of Vocational Rehabilitation Services**
OVRs also can help with the cost of services in your approved employment plan.
- **Other agencies**
You'll be asked to apply for all available resources and financial assistance (except loans) from other agencies or organizations.

What is an employment plan?

An employment plan is a road map to your final goal – a job. It identifies the services, activities and costs you need to reach the goal.

You and your counselor will create the plan together.

How long does it take to get a job?

It could take as little as three months or – depending on your needs and skills – it could take two years or longer.

How do I learn more?

Contact your nearest OVRs office by phone or in person to make an appointment.

What can I expect when I go to the OVRs office?

- You will be asked for a complete work history;
- You may be asked to fill out forms;
- You will meet with a counselor to discuss your disability and how it keeps you from working;
- You will need written statements about your disability from a doctor or other source;
- You may be asked to take exams or tests; and
- You may be asked to see a doctor.

If you are eligible for the OVRs program*:

- You may be placed on a waitlist, depending on your level of need;
- You will be asked to set a job goal;
- You will be asked to help create your employment plan; and
- You will be expected to go to work when you complete your training or job search.

**If OVRs is in an Order of Selection, you may be waitlisted before you can receive services. Your counselor will tell you if you will be placed on a waitlist.*

