

What is Order of Selection?

Under federal law, if Oregon does not have enough money to provide vocational rehabilitation services to all eligible persons, OVRS must set priorities to serve those with the most significant disabilities. If you are found eligible for VR services, your counselor assigns you a priority category based on the severity of your disability.

How does OVRS determine my priority level?

A counselor will determine your priority level based on how severely your ability to work is limited. Oregon considers seven types of “functional capacity” in determining your priority level: communication, interpersonal skills, mobility, self-care, self-direction, work skills, and work tolerance.

What are Oregon’s priority Levels?

- **Priority one** individuals have at least three serious functional capacity limitations and require at least two vocational rehabilitation services over an extended period of time.
- **Priority two** individuals have two serious functional capacity limitations and require at least two vocational rehabilitation services over an extended period of time.
- **Priority three** individuals have one serious functional capacity limitation and require at least two

vocational rehabilitation services over an extended period of time. Someone who is presumed eligible for services as an SSI/SSDI recipient is also priority three.

- **Priority four** individuals are those who do not meet the criteria for priority one, two or three.

Am I automatically served if I am on SSI or SSDI?

No. However, a person who receives SSI or SSDI will be considered at least a priority three, and may qualify for a higher priority based on the actual number of functional capacity limitations.

Will there be a periodic review of my functional limitations?

If you are on the waitlist, you may request a review of your priority category assignment by giving us evidence that your disability has become more significant.

If I am on the waitlist, can I get services at another OVRS office?

No. OVRS is required to establish a statewide Order of Selection waitlist. Each individual found eligible for services will be placed on the statewide waitlist and will be taken off the waitlist and served as soon as resources allow, based on the priority level being served and date of application.

How will I know about my status on the waitlist or what priority category is being served?

OVRS will contact you at least once every 90 days regarding your status on the waitlist. As soon as a priority category is opened and individuals can be taken off of the waitlist, OVRS will notify the affected individuals that they may come to their local office if they are still interested in receiving VR services.

What if I do not agree with my priority category assignment?

You have the right to appeal through an informal administrative review, mediation or a hearing. Your counselor will inform you about the appeal options.

You may also request assistance from the Client Assistance Program (CAP):

Oregon Client Assistance Program

(Voice)	503-243-2081 800-452-1694
(TTY)	503-323-9161
(VP)	866-863-7179
(FAX)	800-513-2321

Where else may I seek services?

OVR Information and Referral will tell you about other employment-related resources in your area.

NOTE: *If you have a current, signed employment plan dated before January 15, 2009, your plan services will NOT be affected by Order of Selection.*



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.

Understanding Order of Selection

