1 in 5 Americans has a disability

According to the U.S. Department of Education, workers with disabilities are rated consistently as average or above average in performance, quality and quantity of work, flexibility, and attendance.

Employers report they want to hire workers with disabilities but do not know where to recruit them (US Chamber of Commerce).

VR helps match more than 200,000 Americans with disabilities with employers nationwide each year (www.ed.gov).

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee’s policy of non-discrimination, the Department of Human Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military services, in its policies, or in admission or access to, or treatment in, its services or activities.

A program of the Tennessee Department of Human Services Division of Rehabilitation Services
Services help lead to employment and are designed to meet individual needs:

**Individuals who are eligible:**

→ **Have** a physical or mental disability that constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment.

→ **Can** benefit from VR services to reach an employment outcome.

→ **Require** VR services to prepare for, obtain, keep or regain employment.

**Special Emphasis Programs**

- Diagnosis
- Counseling & Guidance
- Treatment
- Training
- Maintenance & Transportation
- Transition Services from School to Work
- Personal Care Assistance Program
- Independent Living Services
- Assistive Technology
- Supported Employment
- Job Placement
- Post-Employment Services

An individual with a disability may apply directly to Vocational Rehabilitation or may be referred by another individual or agency. A referral may be made by contacting a Vocational Rehabilitation office in person, by telephone, mail, fax or e-mail.

**SERVICES BEGIN WITH THE APPLICANT AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELOR DEVELOPING AN INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN FOR EMPLOYMENT**

**Social Security Insurance (SSI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients are presumed eligible for services if intending to secure employment.**

**Tennessee Rehabilitation Center at Smyrna**

State operated comprehensive rehabilitation facility offers a variety of vocational programs on campus with residential housing available: [http://tn.gov/humanserv/rehab/trc.html](http://tn.gov/humanserv/rehab/trc.html)

**Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

The unique needs of individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing are served through a specialized unit.

**Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

The unique needs of individuals who are blind and visually impaired are served through a specialized unit.

**Community TN Rehabilitation Centers**

Centers offer comprehensive vocational evaluation services, employee development services, job readiness training and placement.

**Tennessee Technology Access Program**

A statewide program designed to increase access to, and acquisition of, assistive technology devices.

**EMLOYMENT SERVICES**

WE HELP PUT YOUR CAREER GOALS INTO ACTION

Vocational Rehabilitation helps participants prepare for employment which can lead to meaningful and satisfying careers. Employment services are available upon completion of your program to assist job seekers with job search and readiness skills training, job placement, employer incentives, workplace supports and follow along services.

Vocational Rehabilitation works with the University of Tennessee’s Corporate Connections to help our clients find a job. This statewide resource and employment service also helps businesses in recruiting, hiring, and retaining employees with disabilities.