

The State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) is established by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The SRC advises the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) on issues facing consumers of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. The SRC works with the DRS to:

- Review, analyze, and advise DRS regarding its performance;
- Advise and assist in the development of the VR Portion of the Combined State Plan;
- Review and evaluate consumer satisfaction;
- Coordinate activities with other councils
- Identify, jointly develop and review VR goals and priorities
- Prepare and submit an annual report on the status of the VR program to the Governor and the Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

The SRC of Tennessee is seeking nominations for membership on the Council. As required by the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, the SRC is comprised of at least fifteen (15) members who are appointed by the Governor. A term of appointment is three (3) years and council members may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. A majority of the Council members must be individuals with disabilities who are not employed by the DRS. When making appointments, the Governor must consider individuals representing a broad range of individuals with disabilities and organizations interested in individuals with disabilities. To the extent possible, the Governor must also consider that minority populations are represented on the Council.

The SRC holds quarterly in-person meetings as well as at least one additional training session per year. All SRC members serve on committees of the SRC and these committees meet, in person or via conference calls, between the scheduled quarterly meetings. In addition, conference calls with the full SRC membership are held throughout the year as needed to discuss other topics which arise between quarterly meetings.

Members are reimbursed for their mileage, food and lodging (if overnights are required), as well as reimbursed for other necessary expenses, such as expenses for a personal care attendant, for attending meetings. Reimbursement Requirements: Reimbursement for travel, meals or lodging shall be subject to amounts and limitations specified in the "State Comprehensive Travel Regulations", as they are amended from time to time, and shall be contingent upon and limited by the grant budget funding for said reimbursement.

All nominations should reflect dedication to furthering employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities, as well as a commitment to regularly attend meetings and be an active SRC member. Nomination forms, including the completed Board and Council application and a current resume should be sent to the attention of the SRC of Tennessee at:

srctennessee@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact:

Lee A. Brown 3rd
Chair of the SRC of Tennessee
lbrown@progressivedirections.com
931-698-0076

SRC Nomination and Appointment Information

The Rehabilitation Act requires that individuals with disabilities who are not employees of the Division comprise at least a majority of the Council membership. While the disclosure of a disability is not mandatory, it is very helpful in the selection process. Under the Rehabilitation Act, the following definition of “an individual with a disability” applies for purposes of disclosure ~ “any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person’s major life activities, or has record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.” The SRC respectfully asks that you complete the application item which addresses this inquiry.

The SRC Nomination/Appointment Process:

1. Individuals who are interested in serving on the SRC may request the application packet by contacting the SRC via email at src.tennessee@gmail.com
2. As positions become available on the SRC, individuals who have previously submitted an application and resume may be contacted to ensure ongoing interest in the SRC. New documents may be requested from the individual if the information previously provided is no longer current.
3. The SRC is required to submit three (3) nominees for each position to the Governor’s Office for consideration. Upon appointment by the Governor, the new SRC member will receive notification directly from the Governor’s Office via a letter and an Oath of Office which must be signed, notarized and returned to the Governor’s Office.

The following are the positions on the SRC, which are mandated by the Rehabilitation Act, as amended. The SRC requests that individuals interested in being considered for appointment please check all SRC positions which apply in your situation and return this information with your completed Board and Council application and resume:

- _____ Chairperson or designee of the Statewide Independent Living Council
- _____ Representative of a parent training and information center
- _____ Director, or other recommended individual, of the Client Assistance Program
- _____ Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor with knowledge of and experience with VR programs
- _____ Representative of community rehabilitation service providers
- _____ Representatives (4) of business, industry or labor
- _____ Representatives of disability advocacy groups representing a cross-section of:
 - _____ Individuals with physical, cognitive, sensory and mental disabilities
 - _____ Representatives of individuals who have difficulty in representing themselves or are unable due to their disabilities to represent themselves
- _____ Individuals who are a current or former applicant of, or recipient of, VR services
- _____ Representative of the State educational agency
- _____ Representative of the State workforce development board
- _____ Director of the Division of Rehabilitation Services