

**Student with:
IEP
504 Plan
Significant Health Condition
What's Next?**

**The Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
May be Able to Help**

WHY should I apply to DORS?

We offer programs to help you transition to higher education, job training, and employment.

WHEN should I apply to DORS?

Talk to your transition facilitator, case manager, or school counselor and apply during the beginning of your junior, or next to last, year of high school.

WHAT will DORS do first?

Your counselor will meet with you to help determine if you are eligible for DORS services and then assist you in developing an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE).

www.dors.state.md.us

**Parent of a Student with:
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HOW does DORS help students?

DORS offers programs that lead to employment. We help eligible students plan for job training, higher education and employment.

WHEN can we get DORS services?

DORS begins working with transitioning students at the beginning of their junior, or next to last, year of high school. If your son or daughter is referred to DORS, follow up within 2 weeks.

WHAT information will DORS need ?

- Medical information documenting your child's special needs, health conditions, or disabilities
- A copy of your child's IEP or 504 Plan
- Doctors' contact information
- Family income information
- Your child's Social Security number

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DORS Services MAY Include:

- Career decision-making, counseling, and referral
- Job, preparation and technical/vocational training
- Assistance with higher education
- Job search, placement and job-keeping services
- Supported employment and job coaching
- Independent living skills training
- Assistive technology
- Driving evaluations and drivers' education
- Medical rehabilitation services
- Other support service

We work with you throughout the transition period and provide at least 3 months of follow-up support after you have a job.

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Who is Eligible for DORS Services ?

Eligibility

Students in public schools are entitled to a “free appropriate public education” according to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as amended.

However, to receive DORS services, students must meet eligibility criteria specified in the Rehabilitation Act. Eligibility is based on the impact of your disability on your ability to work.

Students who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), due to their own disability, are presumed eligible for services.

It is also important to know that funding for DORS programs is limited. Therefore, individuals with the most significant disabilities are served first. Even if they are eligible, students with less significant disabilities may be placed on a waiting list, or may not receive services.

Who Pays for DORS Services?

DORS Counselors are required to look for other sources of funding for most services.

Some services, such as career guidance, counseling, assessment, and job placement are offered free of charge.

There is a **sliding scale** based on family income and size for most other services.

SSI and **SSDI** recipients are not required to contribute to the costs of services on the IPE, but may need to contribute towards services beyond the scope of DORS policy.

Your DORS Counselor can help answer questions about your family's financial contributions towards services.

DORS will only pay for services that have been pre-approved and authorized by a DORS official in writing.

What's Next?

STUDENTS:

- Actively participate in your plan.
- Come to your appointments.
- Ask questions.
- Make informed choices.
- Think about your employment interests and share these with your DORS Counselor.

PARENTS:

- If your son or daughter is referred to DORS, follow up within 2 weeks.
- Help your son/daughter by providing all the documentation needed at the first DORS appointment.

- Encourage and support your child's attendance at appointments and programs.

To Locate a DORS Office in Your Community:

410-554-9442

Toll-Free 1-888-554-0334

TTY 410-554-9411

www.dors.state.md.us

To obtain a copy of the this brochure in an alternate format such as Braille or large print, contact DORS Public Information program at one of the numbers above.

The Division of Rehabilitation Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion or disability in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs.

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