



Employment means **INDEPENDENCE.**



**VOCATIONAL
REHABILITATION
SERVICES**



DIVISION FOR BLIND SERVICES

The Vocational Rehabilitation

"I truly appreciate the high level of honest and professional services I have received from DBS to help me reach my goals."



**Department of
Assistive and Rehabilitative Services**

Division for Blind Services

Place business card here.

For more information contact
DARS Inquiries

512.377.0500 V/TTY (Austin)
800.628.5115 V/TTY (Toll Free)

www.dars.state.tx.us



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Independence means **CHOICES.**

Program is a choice.



The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Division for Blind

Services (DBS) Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program works in partnership with blind and visually impaired people to assist them in reaching their employment goals. Gaining skills needed for a career, learning how to prepare for a job interview or getting the accommodations needed to stay employed are just a few of the ways this program helps people increase productivity and independence.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program is designed for adults whose visual condition limits their ability to begin or continue employment.

”Just because I am
unable to see good,
does not mean I am
not capable doing
things... life is good
and everyday I live I
cherish that moment
to the fullest.”

Choices means **OPPORTUNITY.**
Your stepping



The counselor and consumer work together to decide on an employment outcome and to develop a program of vocational rehabilitation services to achieve the consumer's goals.

As part of the VR Program, the Division for Blind Services also has specialized services for individuals who are **Deafblind**, and the **Transition Program** provides educational and career guidance for adolescents and young adults.

stones to independence.

CORE SERVICES

The Vocational Rehabilitation Program offers a wide variety of services associated with six major skill areas. These skill areas are considered the stepping stones for an independent, productive and satisfying life and career.

Adjustment to Blindness

Counselors familiarize consumers with information related to their eye condition through eye medical services, counseling and guidance and exposure to support and advocacy organizations.

Services are designed to assist consumers to learn how to confidently cope and self advocate so that they can deal effectively with the demands of society.

Independent Living Skills

Consumers are provided with opportunities to become independent and confident in their home and community. The VR Counselor identifies services that can assist the consumer in reaching their goals for independent living.



Travel

Orientation and Mobility skills enable consumers to safely navigate their home, their community, their workplace and their world.

Communication

With strong communication skills, consumers can be successful at work. Consumers can learn to use braille, assistive technology and alternative ways to access information.

Support Systems

The VR Program helps consumers connect with community support systems such as peer support and advocacy organizations.

Vocational

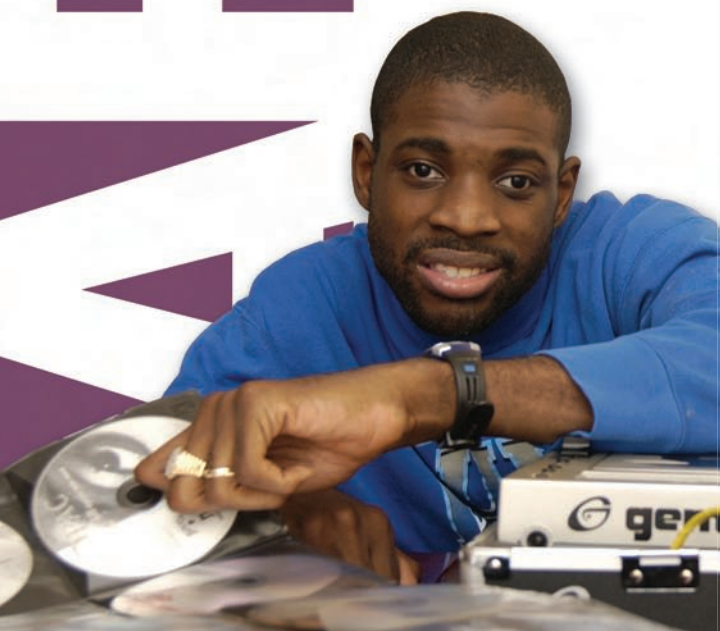
The purpose of the VR program is to help eligible persons get or keep a job. DBS offers several services that are all focused on jobs, or employment outcomes. Those services include such things as career guidance, job readiness, and help with job placement.





Opportunity means **CAREER.**
A productive

“You gave me
the confidence
to live my life
without vision.”



ELIGIBILITY

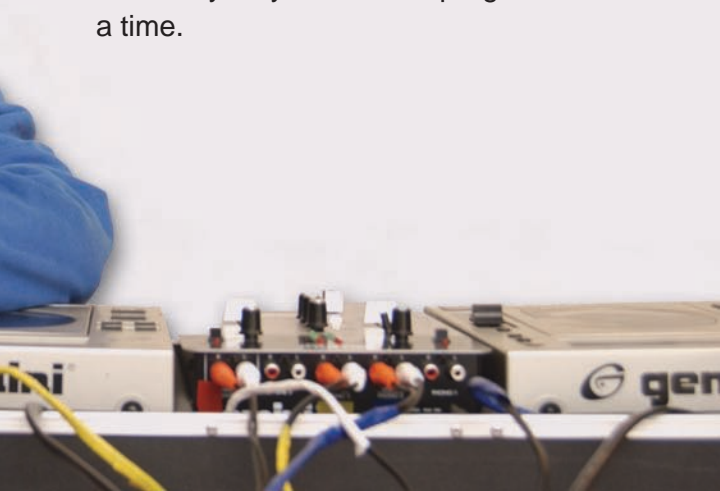
Criteria for VR Services:

- the person has a visual impairment which results in a substantial impediment to employment,

and satisfying life.

- vocational rehabilitation services from DBS are required by that person to prepare for, get or keep employment, and
- the person is able to get or keep employment after receiving DBS services.

Consumers of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) can be served by only one DARS program at a time.



To inquire about DBS services you may call the nearest office of DARS Division for Blind Services, contact numbers are listed below, or you may visit our website www.dars.state.tx.us.

FIELD HEADQUARTERS

Austin

512.533.7100
800.687.7008

Houston

713.802.3100
800.687.7028

Corpus Christi

361.289.1128
800.687.7015

Lubbock

806.798.8181
800.687.7032

Dallas

214.378.2600
800.687.7017

San Antonio

210.732.9751
800.687.7039

El Paso

915.834.7004
800.687.7020

Southeast

713.944.9924
800.687.7036

Ft. Worth

817.759.3500
800.687.7023

Tyler

903.581.9945
800.687.7042

Harlingen

956.423.9411
800.687.7025

Waco

254.753.1552
800.687.7044