

# ACCES Services for High School Students School to Work Transition

**Services are offered through:**

**Adult Career and Continuing Education Services - Vocational Rehabilitation**

**711 Stewart Ave**

**Garden City, NY 11530**

ACCES-VR works with students, families and school districts to coordinate appropriate services for students with disabilities who are leaving secondary education and entering adult vocational rehabilitation and related services. These efforts are crucial to enable students to achieve maximum success in post-school activities consisting of integrated employment (including supported employment), post-secondary education, independent living, and community participation. Students who are expected to exit school within two years should be referred to ACCES-VR when:

1. The school, student and/or parents jointly recognize that the student's disability will interfere with his/her ability to work in the community and that ACCES-VR services are necessary to help the student successfully achieve employment; and
2. The vocational rehabilitation services needed are not among the continuum of mandated school district programs.

Transition services are a coordinated set of activities for secondary students with disabilities, designed to achieve specific outcomes, which promote movement from school to post-school activities. The coordination is carried out by the school district, with the active participation of the student, his or her family and appropriate community service agencies, including ACCES-VR.

The coordinated set of activities is based upon the individual student's needs, taking into account the student's preferences, potential, abilities and interests. These activities include instruction, community experiences, the development of employment and other post-school adult living objectives, and, when appropriate, acquisition of daily living skills and functional vocational evaluation. The goal of transition services is not simply a referral to ACCES-VR, but rather post-secondary education, adult education and training, adult services, independent living, community participation, a specific job or career, and/or integrated community living.

## Service Planning

The goal of transition services is to ensure that students with disabilities are prepared for employment, post-secondary education, or community living when they leave school. As a participant in this process, the ACCES-VR counselor can:

1. Contribute knowledge of rehabilitation services and outcomes;
2. Identify the need for involvement by other state agencies, adult service programs, independent living centers and community based services whose resources can assist students with disabilities,