



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Year in Review July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

3,816 citizens with disabilities have been successfully placed into competitive employment based on their choices, interests, needs and skills.

The earnings of these rehabilitated employees in MA in the first year were \$70.1 million.

Estimated public benefits savings from people rehabilitated in MA were \$28.6 million.

Average Hourly Wage \$13.18

Average Work Hours Weekly 26.8

*The returns to society based on increases in lifetime earnings range from \$14 to \$18 for each \$1 invested in the MRC Vocational Rehabilitation program.

*\$5 is returned to the government in the form of increased taxes and reduced public assistance payments for every \$1 invested in the MRC Vocational Rehabilitation program.

**Based on Commonwealth Corporation Study.*

Who Are Our Consumers?

Psychiatric Disabilities 40.0%
Substance Abuse 8.7%

Orthopedic Disabilities 10.2%
Learning Disabilities 22.2%
Developmental Disabilities 1.8%
Deaf and Hard of Hearing 6.0%
Neurological Disabilities 2.4%
Traumatic Brain Injury 1.4%
Other Disabilities 7.4%

Average Age 33.0

Female 46%
Male 54%

Asian/Pacific Islander 3.4%
Black 17.6%
Hispanic 11.8%
Native American 1.0%
White 79.7%

FACTS AT A GLANCE

The goal of our services is to promote dignity through employment and community living, one person at a time. We hope all citizens with disabilities in Massachusetts will have the opportunity to contribute as a productive member of their community and family as a result of services provided by the MRC.

Consumers actively receiving services	25,125
Consumers enrolled in training/education programs	16,513
Consumers with disabilities competitively employed	100%/3,816
Consumers employed with medical insurance	95.9%
Consumers satisfied with services	84.0%

Mission:

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) promotes equality, empowerment, and independence of individuals with disabilities. These goals are achieved through enhancing and encouraging personal choice and the right to succeed in the pursuit of independence and employment in the community.

Vision:

The MRC provides comprehensive services to people with disabilities that maximize their quality of life and economic self-sufficiency in the community.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Division

The MRC Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind serve eligible individuals with disabilities who are available and able to attain employment as a result of vocational rehabilitation services.

The MRC Vocational Rehabilitation Program is the federal-state vocational rehabilitation program focused on assisting individuals with disabilities to obtain, maintain, and advance in employment. Some of the MRC-VR services provided include:

- Vocational counseling, guidance and assistance in job placement;
- Training programs, including job-driven partnerships with employers, including college and vocational certificate programs, if appropriate, to attain competitive employment;
- Assistive Technology and Rehabilitation technology services;
- Job coach services;
- Community based employment services;
- Interview preparation and direct job placement services;
- Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS) for students with disabilities.

What MRC Consumers Have To Say

- ❖ The help and guidance I received from my case worker, and the flexibility to my circumstances by the entire system in general in helping me to achieve my goals which now includes work within my chosen field, and a master's degree next year as well."
- ❖ "My employment counselor was informed, professional and very pleasant to work with. She was diligent in finding the tools I needed to get me started and my business is growing slowly thanks to her assistance."
- ❖ I have worked with a MRC representative who has helped me a great deal in finishing my degree. I am truly grateful for the help, support, and confident that this person has given me to be able to accomplish my education. I have found a full time employment with great benefits. MRC has help me in all the areas needed to accomplish my goals. Thank you!!"
- ❖ "MRC provided me with hearing aids, a laptop computer (mouse, programs), and ECHO pen for taking notes. My counselor is excellent. He is patient, knowledgeable, and referred me to financial, employment, and benefits consultants."
- ❖ "I enjoyed the summer program where I got a paid internship and learned about work and got work experience."
- ❖ I think that this organization is one of the best that we have in MA. The people working within make the most of what resources they have and all are clearly dedicated to serving their clients."