

MRC Pre-Employment Transition Services

Do you know...

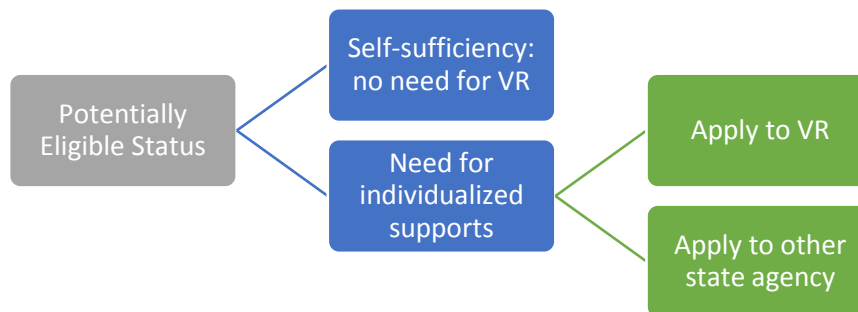
- What kind of career you want?
- How to get a job that will lead you down that career path?
- What skills you need before you can get that job?
- What skills you need to keep that job?
- Where you can get the training you need and how long this will take?

MRC Pre-employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) can help...

Pre-employment transition services are available to any student with a documented disability aged 14-21 (up to their 22nd birthday); you can access these services through a Pre-ETS provider in your community.

Potentially eligible status is an entry way for students with a documented disability to engage with MRC Pre-ETS programming without having to go through Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) eligibility.

The goal of students engaging in programming under a potentially eligible status is to help identify the best path for a student so their needs can be met. A potentially eligible student can have one of the following outcomes after engaging in programming:



Potentially eligible status exists to help students access services more quickly. There is nothing restricting an individual from submitting a referral to VR services if that is what they are interested in. Potentially eligible students can only receive pre-employment transition services.

Pre-ETS programming- What is available?

Pre-ETS programs should not duplicate school transition services and are instead a supplement to the school transition services. MRC encourages Pre-ETS services to mostly take place in the community with a focus on employer engagement. While some services can be offered in the school to increase student's access to services, the most value will come from being in the community.

- Job Exploration Counseling: Seminars or workshops on careers and required skills, career ladders, and interest inventory
- Workplace Readiness Training: Development of transferable work skills that may include resume writing, interview skills, and professionalism
- Work Based Learning Experiences: Opportunities to job shadow, complete informational interviews, volunteer opportunities, and internships
- Self- Advocacy and Mentoring: Peer mentoring, development of individual advocacy skills, and rights and responsibilities
- Counseling on Post-Secondary Education or Training Programs: Counseling and guidance about options upon exiting high school that may include academic or vocational programs



How to get connected?

Ask your local MRC area office what Pre-ETS providers are in your area. You can connect directly to the provider and start to engage in conversations about what services will best benefit you.

You can bring the [enrollment form](#), found on our [website](#), to the Pre-ETS provider.

What documentation is needed?

Pre-ETS providers will ask students/families to sign information releases that allow for the gathering of documentation. If you are over the age of 18 and your own guardian, you can sign off on your own release. If you are under the age of 18 or you have a legal guardian, then your parent/guardian must sign the release form.

- Disability documentation may include:
 - Individual Education Plan (IEP)
 - Medical documentation with disability identified
 - Psychosocial report
 - 504 Accommodation Plan with a diagnosed disability identified

If you are unsure if a document is acceptable, please contact your local MRC Area Office.

What is Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)?

VR helps people with all disabilities types who require individualized supports get and keep a job in the modern workplace. This may include identifying job goals based on your interests and skills. VR can also look at your work site for improvements or help you return to work after an injury. Vocational rehabilitation services can help reduce or remove barriers to employment.

Applying to VR services?

Ultimately the decision to apply to VR services is up to the individual, but we encourage you to talk to your support network to determine if VR is an appropriate plan for you.

It is recommended that you participate in at least 1 Pre-ETS service under the potentially eligible status before applying to VR. Quality services provided through Pre-ETS and other MRC youth services may give you the skills you need to be successful without the need for VR services in adulthood. If you will need more individualized support to complete Pre-ETS programming, you are still able to apply to VR.

VR services can include, but are not limited to, assessment, counseling and guidance, physical and mental restoration services, vocational and other training services, maintenance, transportation, job-related services including job search and placement assistance, job retention services, follow-up, and follow along services.

What can you expect from Pre-ETS?

You and your family can expect more direct communication between the school and the Pre-ETS provider, easier access to Pre-ETS programming, a strong focus on career preparation, and soft skill development. Pre-ETS services are designed to help you best prepare for employment and/or post-secondary education after high school.

To learn more about MRC and Pre-ETS services, please visit our website at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/pre-employment-transition-services-Pre-ETS-0>