**California Department of Rehabilitation**

The California Department of Rehabilitation was established in 1963 and works in partnership with consumers and other stakeholders to provide services and advocacy resulting in employment, independent living and equality for individuals with disabilities.

**DOR Programs**

**Vocational Rehabilitation Program**

The DOR administers the largest vocational rehabilitation program in the country. With over 80 locations throughout California, the DOR provides services to increase the quality and quantity of employment outcomes for people with a full range of physical and psychiatric disabilities. Services are tailored to each person individually to ensure a greater chance for success. A vocational rehabilitation team works closely with each job seeker to establish the best combination of services, and resources necessary to prepare for, find and retain employment. At any given time, the DOR serves approximately 115,000 individuals with disabilities.

The vocational rehabilitation program is not an entitlement program. Rather, only those individuals who meet eligibility requirements and have the most significant disabilities receive services. The DOR’s Order of Selection process is prescribed in federal law, and is required when requests for services exceed budgetary resources. Nationwide, for every $1 in vocational rehabilitation funds expended to assist people with disabilities obtain and retain employment, there is a $6 return on investment. More specifically, as individuals become employed, they cycle off of public benefits and become contributing taxpayers. The DOR reported nearly 11,000 successful employment outcomes in the fiscal year 2009-2010.

**Services may include:**

•Career assessment and counseling •Assistive technology

•Job search and interview skills

•Independent living skills

•Career education and training

**Independent Living Program**

With federal work reimbursements from the Social Security Administration, the DOR funds 29 Independent Living Centers in California which provide independent living services to over 30,000 individuals who are aged and/or have significant disabilities to live independently outside of institutions consistent with the 1999 Supreme Court Olmstead Decision.

**Additional Programs**

Assistive Technology Program Blind Field Services

Business Enterprises Program Client Assistance Program

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Section Disability Access Services

Mental Health Cooperative Programs Older Individuals who are Blind

Orientation Center for the Blind Supported Employment Program

Transition Partnership Program Traumatic Brain Injury Program

Workforce Development Section

For more information on the DOR's programs, visit our website [www.dor.ca.gov](http://www.dor.ca.gov)

**Funding**

DOR operates under the California Health and Human Services Agency and in accordance with the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended by Title IV of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and, as such, administers federal matching funds. Vocational rehabilitation services are funded with 78.7% federal dollars and 21.3% matching funds, part of which are provided by the state general fund, and part by public agencies through DOR’s cooperative program agreements. For every $1 in funds the State contributes, DOR receives $4 in federal funds. The DOR's overall FY 2011-2012 budget is $418 million, of which, $55 million of that is from the General Fund.

**For More Information**

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