

LET US  
PARTNER WITH  
YOU

**Self Determination  
Skills and Post  
Secondary Services  
Can your student:**

- Explain what their disability is and how it affects them?
- Describe their strengths and needs and how this impacts career choices?
- Speak about what accommodations they may need and why?
- Explore realistic career options in order to choose a goal that fits their needs?

**Contact  
Information:**

**ACCES-VR Statewide  
Transition and Youth  
Senior Counselors**

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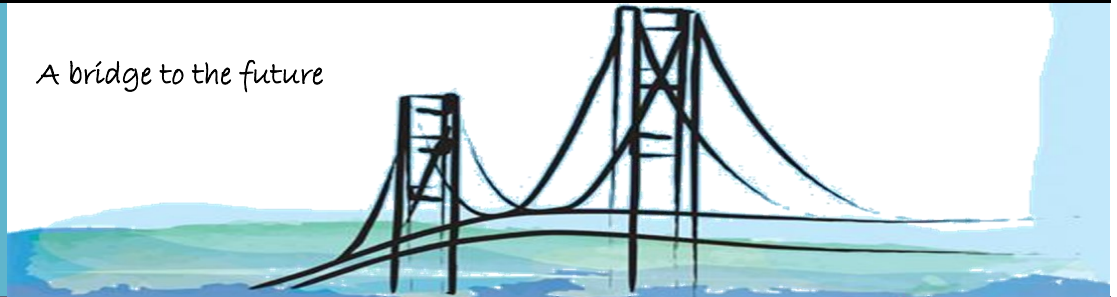
**Community  
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*A bridge to the future*



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## ACCES-VR In School Youth Referral Time Line...

Following this time line can help your referral process run smoothly for all students who are within 2 years of exiting high school:

### Suggested School Staff & VR Staff Shared Activities for January - March:

- School Staff will continue to work with students & families to collect completed ACCES-VR applications and submit signed applications to VR Counselor
- VR Counselor will continue to process applications & complete eligibility determinations for students who are within 2 years of exiting high school
- VR Counselor may refer for evaluations, eg. Rehab Tech, Vocational Assessments, Driver Evals, Neuropsych Evals, Community Based Work Assessments
- VR Counselor may refer for Summer Work Experiences
- VR Counselor may identify College Bound Students
- Once eligibility is determined, VR Counselor will begin development of Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)



**ACCES-VR Mission Statement:** ACCES-VR assists individuals with disabilities to achieve and maintain employment and to support independent living through training, education, rehabilitation and career development

## What are some of the differences between High School and College?

High School	College
* Documentation focuses on determining whether student is eligible for services based on specific disability categories in I.D.E.A	* Documentation must provide information on specific functional limitations, and demonstrate the need for specific accommodations
* Parent advocates for student	* Student advocates for self
* Teachers may modify curriculum and or alter pace of assignments	* Professors are not required to modify curriculum design or alter assignment deadlines
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## Pre-Employment Transition Service Options for Youth

### Informational Reminders

- ◇ **Vocational Counseling & Guidance**, allows the VRC to assist youth in finding and understanding their strengths and needs, identify services and supports and to construct an agreed upon employment plan
- ◇ **Work Readiness**, allows for assistance in soft skills training and development
- ◇ **Work Experience**, includes opportunities such as Work Experience Development, Work Try-Out, On the Job Training, Community Work Experience and Summer Internships
- ◇ **Work Supports**, provides job coaching supports for employment
- ◇ **Assessments**, evaluations to determine what supports are needed to help the student succeed, can include Vocational Evaluation, Community Based Workplace Assessment, and Assistive Technology evaluations
- ◇ **Benefits Advisement**, educating the student on the how working will effect their benefits
- ◇ **Assistive Technology**
- ◇ **Transportation**, identify travel training opportunities such as Mobility Training, Driver Training and Adaptive Driver Evaluation and training.

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## What are Independent Living Centers?

Independent Living Centers are nonprofit organizations which offer a variety of services. They are controlled by a board of directors, most of whom have disabilities themselves. The centers' philosophy is to provide a "peer" approach to services. People with disabilities work and volunteer at the centers. The ILC serves all people with disabilities as well as parents, spouses, siblings and significant others of people with disabilities. All Independent Living Centers provide services geared toward promoting self help, equal access, peer role modeling, personal growth, and empowerment. The scope of services is directed by individual and community needs. Services can include:

- |                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| * Peer counseling        | * Independent living skills  | * Architectural barriers consultation    |
| * Information & referral | * Counseling and training  | * Equipment maintenance, repair and loan |
| * Advocacy               | * Assistance in obtaining accessible housing and quality health care |  |
| * Benefits counseling    |  |  |
| * Transportation         |  |  |

## 2017 OPWDD Front Door Training Opportunities



### In-person 2017 Training Schedule:

- Monday, January 9th 10am - 12pm
- Wednesday, February 1st 2pm - 4pm
- Wednesday, March 8th 6pm - 8pm
- Friday, April 7th 10am - 12pm
- Monday, May 8th 2pm - 4pm
- Wednesday, June 7th 6pm - 8pm

### Phone Training Schedule:

Every Monday (Except Holidays), 3pm - 5pm

In-person trainings are held at the LIDDRO:  
 415A Oser Avenue, Hauppauge, NY 11788  
 (631)434-6000

Registration is **Required**.  
 In-person training registration can be done online: <https://opwdd.ny.gov/node/6911>

### Call to schedule a Phone Training

Attendees will learn about:

- The Front Door process
- The services OPWDD offers
- The eligibility process
- An introduction to Self Direction
- Funding for services