

# Graduation Pathways

## 2019-20 Florida 24-Credit Graduation Options

24-Credit Standard Diploma Option <i>Available to all students, including students with disabilities</i>	24-Credit Standard Diploma Option with Academic and Employment Requirements <i>Available only to students with disabilities</i>	24-Credit Standard Diploma Option (Access Courses) <i>Available only to students with significant cognitive disabilities, who take access courses and the alternate assessment</i>
<b>English Language Arts (4 Credits)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ELA 1, 2, 3, 4</li> <li>▪ ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute a Career and Technical Education (CTE) course with content related to English for English 4</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute access courses for general education courses</li> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to English for English 4</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics (4 Credits)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>▪ Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> <li>▪ An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one math credit (except for Algebra 1 or higher)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>▪ Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to mathematics for one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>▪ Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> <li>▪ May substitute access courses for general education courses</li> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to mathematics for one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> </ul>
<b>Science (3 Credits)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses</li> <li>▪ Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component</li> <li>• An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> <li>• An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to science for one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute access courses for general education courses</li> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to science for one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies (3 Credits)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 credit in World History</li> <li>▪ 1 credit in U.S. History</li> <li>▪ .5 credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>▪ .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to social studies for one social studies credit (except for U.S. History)</li> </ul>	<p>Includes all requirements listed in column one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May substitute access courses for general education courses</li> <li>▪ May substitute a CTE course with content related to social studies for one social studies credit course (except for U.S. History)</li> </ul>
<b>Electives (8 Credits)</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must include .5 credit in an employment-based course</li> <li>▪ May include exceptional student education (ESE) courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May include employment-based course/s</li> </ul>
<b>Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts (1 Credit)</b>		
<b>Physical Education to include the integration of health (1 Credit)</b>		
<b>One Online Course</b> (Requirement may be waived by IEP team)		
<b>Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and pass statewide assessments or meet the criteria for a waiver of assessment results.</b>		

**2019-20 Florida Graduation Options – ACCEL Option and Career and Technical Education (CTE) Graduation Pathway**

18-Credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL) Option – Available to all students, including students with disabilities		Career and Technical Education (CTE) Graduation Pathway (requires a minimum of 18 credits) – Available to all students, including students with disabilities	
<b>English Language Arts (4 Credits)</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ELA 1, 2, 3, 4</li> <li>▪ ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement</li> </ul>		Includes all requirements listed in column one <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Including statewide grade 10 Reading assessment or the grade 10 ELA assessment or earn a concordant score</li> </ul>	
<b>Mathematics (4 Credits)</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry</li> <li>▪ Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)</li> </ul>		Includes all requirements listed in column one	
<b>Science (3 Credits)</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of which must be Biology 1</li> <li>▪ Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component</li> <li>▪ An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> <li>▪ An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)</li> </ul>		Includes all requirements listed in column one	
<b>Social Studies (3 Credits)</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 credit in World History</li> <li>▪ 1 credit in U.S. History</li> <li>▪ .5 credit in U.S. Government</li> <li>▪ .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy</li> </ul>		Includes all requirements listed in column one	
<b>Electives (3 Credits)</b>		<b>Electives (4 Credits)</b>	
<b>Career and Technical Education – Not Required</b> <b>Work-Based Learning Programs – Not Required</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Career and Technical Education (2 Credits)</b> - Courses must result in a program completion and an industry certification</li> <li>▪ <b>Work-Based Learning Programs (2 Credits)</b> - Complete two credits in work-based learning programs                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ May substitute up to 2 credits of electives, including one-half credit in financial literacy, for work-based learning program courses to fulfill requirement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts (1 Credit)</b>		<b>Fine Arts and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts – Not Required</b>	
		<b>*Must meet program completion and industry certification</b>	
<b>Physical Education – Not Required</b>			
<b>Online Course – Not Required</b>			
<b>Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and pass statewide assessments or meet the criteria for a waiver of assessment results.</b>			

# Standard Diploma Requirements

## Academic Advisement – What Students and Parents Need to Know

### What are the diploma options?

Students must successfully complete one of the following diploma options:

- 24-credit standard diploma
- 18-credit Academically Challenging Curriculum to Enhance Learning (ACCEL)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway
- Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) curriculum
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma curriculum

### What are the state assessment requirements?

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) or a concordant score
- Algebra 1 end of course (EOC) or a comparative score

Refer to [Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments](#) for concordant and comparative scores.

Students enrolled in the following courses must participate in the corresponding EOC assessment, which constitutes 30 percent of the final course grade<sup>+</sup>:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History

<sup>+</sup>Special note: Thirty percent not applicable if not enrolled in the course but passed the EOC (credit acceleration program [CAP]).

### What is the difference between the 18-credit ACCEL option and the 24-credit option?

- 3 elective credits instead of 8
- Physical Education is not required
- Online course is not required

### What is the difference between the CTE Pathway option and the 24-credit option?

- At least 18 credits are required
- 4 elective credits instead of 8
  - 2 credits in CTE courses, must result in completion and industry certification
  - 2 credits in work-based learning programs or up to 2 elective credits including financial literacy
- Physical Education is not required
- Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts is not required
- Online course is not required

### 24 Credit Standard Diploma

#### 4 Credits ELA

- ELA 1, 2, 3, 4
- ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), AICE, IB and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement

#### 4 Credits Mathematics\*

- One of which must be Algebra 1 and one of which must be Geometry
- Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)
- An identified computer science\*\* credit may substitute for up to one mathematics credit (except for Algebra 1 and Geometry)

#### 3 Credits Science

- One of which must be Biology 1, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses
- Two of the three required course credits must have a laboratory component
- Industry Certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)
- An identified computer science\*\* credit may substitute for up to one science credit (except for Biology 1)

#### 3 Credits Social Studies

- 1 credit in World History
- 1 credit in U.S. History
- 0.5 credit in U.S. Government
- 0.5 credit in Economics

#### 1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts\*

#### 1 Credit Physical Education\*

- To include the integration of health

#### 8 Elective Credits

#### 1 Online Course

Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all cohort years and pass statewide, standardized assessments unless a waiver of assessment results is granted by the IEP team for students with disabilities.

\* Eligible courses are specified in the [Florida Course Code Directory](#).

\*\*A computer science credit may not be used to substitute for both a mathematics and science credit.

### Scholar Diploma Designation

In addition to the requirements of section (s.) [1003.4282](#), Florida Statutes (F.S.), a student must satisfy the following requirements (per. s. [1003.4285](#), F.S.):

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra 2 or an equally rigorous course
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in Statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology 1 EOC\*
- Earn 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC\*
- Earn 2 credits in the same World Language
- Earn at least 1 credit in an AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course

\*A student is exempt from the Biology 1 or U.S. History EOC assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology 1 or U.S. History course; takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

### Merit Diploma Designation

- Meet the standard high school diploma requirements
- Attain one or more [industry certifications](#) from the list established (per s. [1003.492](#), F.S.)

### What are the additional graduation options for students with disabilities ?

Two additional options are available only to students with disabilities. Both allow students to substitute a CTE course with related content for one credit in ELA 4, mathematics, science and social studies (excluding Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1 and U.S. History). The two options are as follows:

- Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn credits via access courses and be assessed via an alternate assessment.
- Students who choose the academic and employment option must earn at least 0.5 credit via paid employment.

### What is the CAP?

The CAP allows a student to earn high school credit if the student passes an AP examination, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or a statewide course assessment without enrollment in the course. The courses include:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Biology 1
- U.S. History



### State University System (SUS)

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous course of study in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements (credit earned by industry certification does not count for SUS admission):

- High school graduation with a standard diploma, a minimum of a 2.5 GPA, and admission test scores meeting minimum college-ready test scores per Board of Governors (BOG) Regulation 6.008
- 16 credits of approved college preparatory academic courses per BOG Regulation 6.002
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Mathematics (Algebra 1 level and above)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language or other equivalents)
- 2 approved electives

[State University System of Florida](#)

### The Florida College System

The 28 colleges of the Florida College System serve nearly 800,000 students. Colleges offer affordable and stackable workforce credentials including certificate programs, associate in science degrees and associate in arts degrees, which transfer to a bachelor's degree program. Many colleges also offer workforce bachelor's degree programs in areas of high demand. All Florida College System institutions have open-door admissions for students who earned a standard high school diploma or an equivalent diploma or successfully earned college credit.

[Florida College System](#)

### Career and Technical Colleges and Centers

Florida also offers students 49 accredited career and technical colleges or centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.

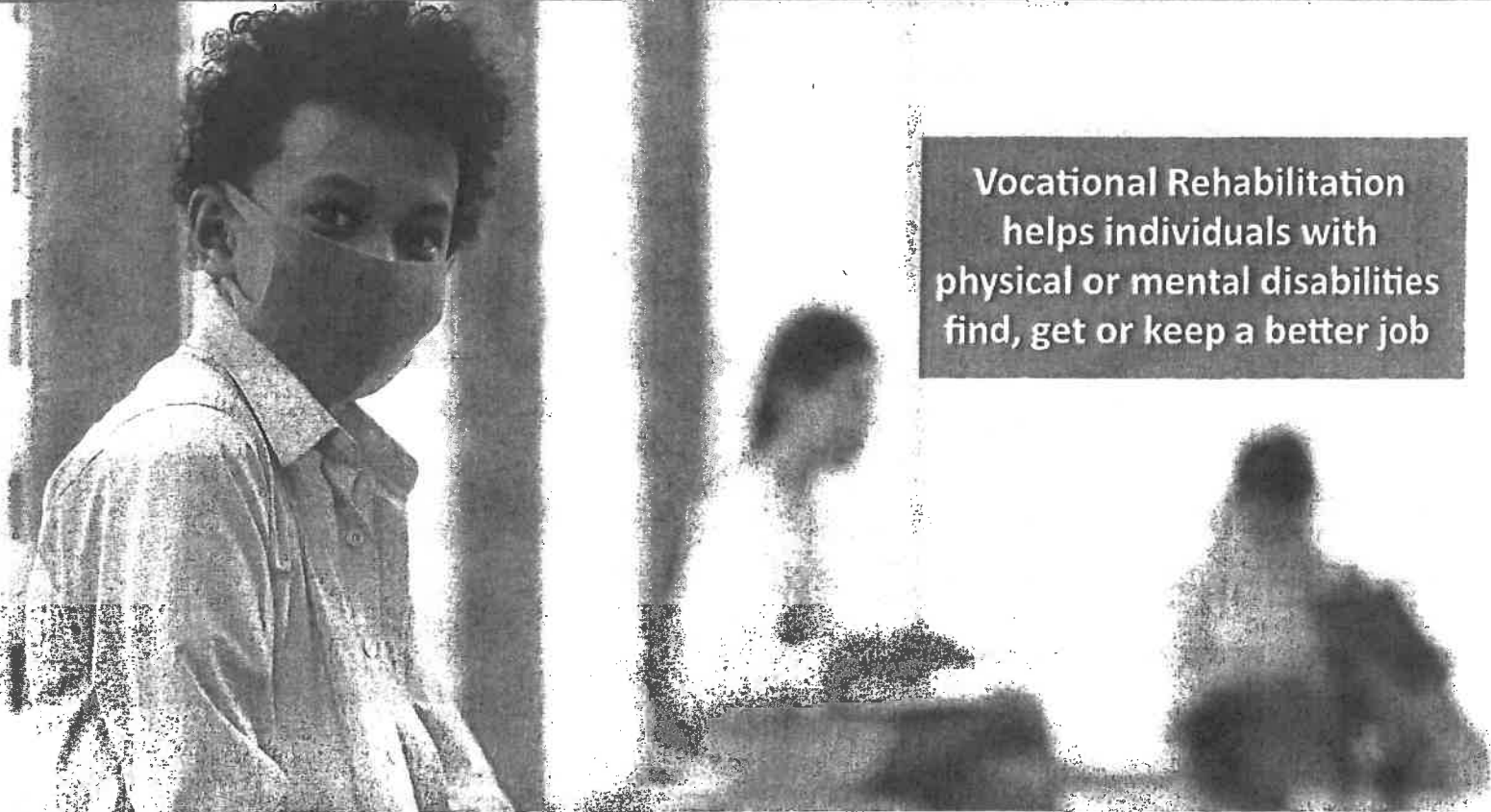
[Career and Technical Education Directors](#)

### Where is information on financial aid located?

The Florida Department of Education's Office of Student Financial Assistance administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships.

[Office of Student Financial Assistance](#)

# Pre-Employment Transition Services



Vocational Rehabilitation  
helps individuals with  
physical or mental disabilities  
find, get or keep a better job

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) works together with students, families, schools and community agencies and organizations to provide services that promote successful transitions from school to work and into adult life.

## What is Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) offer students with disabilities an early start at career exploration and preparation for adult life.

Beginning at age 14, students with disabilities can connect with VR for Pre-ETS. VR works with students, their families, their schools and community partners to enrich transition planning and support students with gaining knowledge and experiences necessary so they may make informed decisions about their future.

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), every student (ages 14-21) with a disability has the opportunity to participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). This includes:

- Job-exploration counseling
- Work readiness training
- Work-based learning experience
- Postsecondary educational counseling, and
- Self-advocacy training and peer mentoring

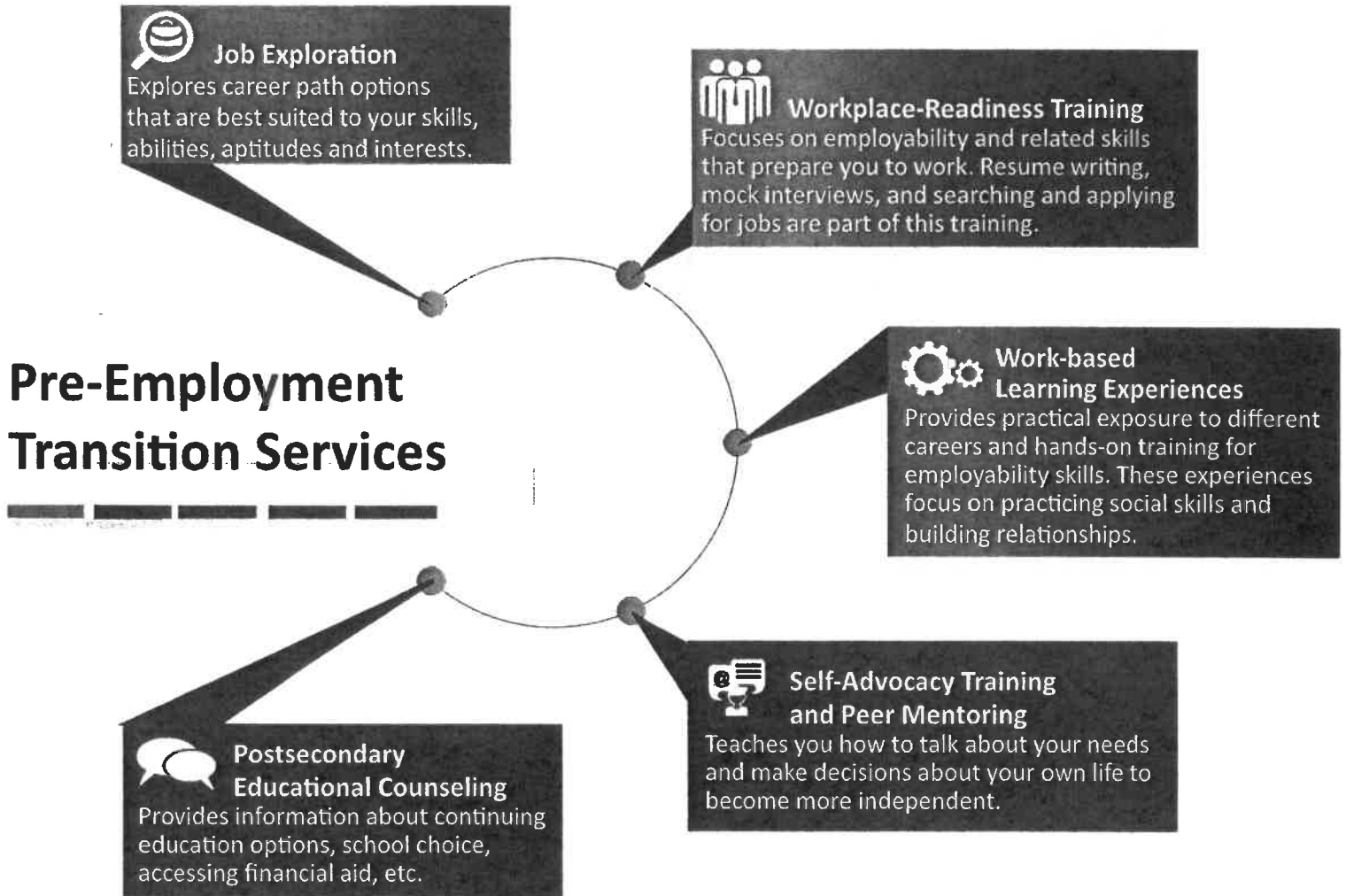
Students with disabilities may participate in Pre-ETS without having to apply to VR or be determined eligible for services. The focus is to develop work skills, practice social skills and acquire a network of community supports while the student is still in high school.

## Who Can Participate in Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students with disabilities ages 14-21 who are currently enrolled in school.

## What are the Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Pre-ETS include job exploration, workplace-readiness training, work-based learning experiences, training on self-advocacy (e.g., youth peer mentoring) and postsecondary educational counseling.



## How Does a Student Access Pre-Employment Transition Services?

Students can contact a VR office or request a referral from their school.

## Contact Vocational Rehabilitation



850-245-3399  
800-451-4327



VRTransitionYouth@  
vr.fl DOE.org



[www.RehabWorks.org](http://www.RehabWorks.org)



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Transition Youth Services  
4070 Esplanade Way, 2nd Floor  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-7016

The Florida Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an equal opportunity employer. It is against the law for VR as a recipient of Federal financial assistance to discriminate against any individual in the United States on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief. The application process used by VR to determine eligibility for services, any subsequent services and the entire VR process are subject to these non-discrimination requirements. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. VR program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For the 2020 Federal fiscal year, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$153,000,001. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs (\$41,409,148) were funded by Florida State Appropriations. Revised October 2020.