



**Utah Parent Center**  
Special needs, extraordinary potential

## Differences in Services

# Differences between General Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Transition Services

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The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, otherwise known as Vocational Rehabilitation, provides a wide variety of individualized services to people with disabilities that need assistance getting back to work. Sometimes it is hard to differentiate between what type of services you may be eligible for, or how a counselor can help you, when you are still in the public school system.

VR provides transition services across the state of Utah. One of the most prominent differences between our transition and general services is that we have a transition counselor assigned to every public school in the state! You do not have to go through a general orientation or try and get signed up for services all on your own. Having an assigned counselor that specializes in transition services has multiple benefits:

- You can start working with your counselor as early as 14 years old!
- Your counselor can attend your IEP or 504 planning meetings, which can be a helpful resource in transitioning into adult services, training, or employment.
- Having an assigned transition counselor to your school helps keep everyone on the same page. Your teachers, counselor, principal and parent etc. will all know who your VR counselor is, and the best way to get them involved in your plan.
- Sometimes it can be scary leaving high school and not having your teachers or friends with you every day. Having a transition counselor involved in your transition planning as early as 14, helps you build a relationship with them so that you: understand the services you may receive, build trust, and feel confident in your transition into adulthood.
- Transition counselors can help make sure you have everything planned out, and all the steps in between taken care of, so you have a game plan right when leaving high school, rather than having added anxieties to your graduation, such as “where do I go from here?”

Our goal, as Vocational Rehabilitation transition counselors, is to provide the most appropriate counseling and guidance for your successful transition from high school to adulthood, independence, and employment.

Information provided by Utah State Office of Rehabilitation  
<http://www.usor.utah.gov/>

## Utah Parent Center

230 West 200 South  
Suite 1101  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
801.272.1051  
1.800.468.1160  
info@utahparentcenter.org  
www.utahparentcenter.org