

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL SERVICES, cont. . .

CONTACT

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[www.ok.gov/odc/C.A.P./index.
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APPLICATION PROCESS, cont.

- In application status, the counselor will secure sufficient information to make a determination of eligibility or ineligibility for VR services, determine a priority group assignment, or make a decision to put the client into extended evaluation. The information needed by the counselor may include the results of a physical examination, an assistive technology evaluation, or an extended evaluation of vocational potential to determine potential for gainful employment.
- If a person is determined to be eligible for services based on evaluation information, the counselor and the individual will develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) that is designed to promote competitive employment.
- Unless extended evaluation/trial work is required, the counselor will make the eligibility determination decision within 60 days of application.

APPEALS PROCESS

1. Consumers who disagree with a VR Program decision are encouraged to contact the local District Supervisor to attempt an effective resolution of the issue. In the event of a reduction, suspension or cessation of VR services, individuals have a right to a case review by an impartial hearing officer, mediation, and/or assistance from the Client Assistance Program (CAP).
2. A request for a fair hearing should be made in writing to your VR Counselor or the hearing coordinator within 30 days of DRS informing you of the decision with which you disagree. The fair hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer within 60 days of the written "Request for a Fair Hearing" by the consumer.
3. Individuals filing a "Request for a Fair Hearing" may request a confidential mediation session to resolve grievances. In the event mediation sessions do not resolve the grievance, individuals retain their right to a fair hearing.
4. After filing a "Request for a Fair Hearing," the administrative review must be conducted by the district supervisor and concluded within the same 60 days, with the results of the review provided in a written letter. If the review resolves the grievance, the "Withdrawal of Request for Hearing" form must be completed; otherwise, the hearing will continue.
5. The written decision of the hearing officer including findings and grounds for the decision will be made to the consumer and hearings coordinator within 30 days of the completion of the hearing.
6. Individuals may request a review of the hearing officer's decision by the Governor or Governor's designee within 20 days of the decision.
7. In the event an individual brings civil action regarding the decision, the final decision either by the hearing officer or the Governor or Governor's designee will be implemented pending court review.