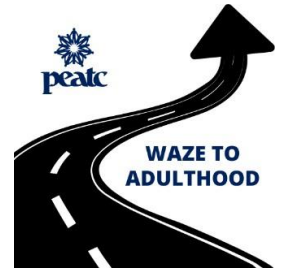


A PEATC

Do You Know....



Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC) Fact Sheet for Virginia's Parents

What is the Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC)?

WWRC is a **center-based program that helps people with disabilities gain job and independent living skills**. WWRC also provides evaluation and therapy services. **The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)** operates WWRC. It is located in Fishersville, Virginia, near Staunton.

WWRC offers a **wide range of training programs, work readiness, student internship programs, and vocational counseling and training**. These services are provided in a **residential campus** setting to allow participants to gain independent living skills that will assist them to be as independent as possible when they return to their community. After an individual completes their vocational program at WWRC, the WWRC counselor works with the individual's DARS counselor on job search and job placement in their home community. Most programs are for those 18 or older but WWRC also supports students in transition through **Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Programs**.

If your child does not want to go to college or trade school but **wants to learn industry skills and gain a credential**, WWRC may be a good choice.

WWRC Programs

[Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition Program \(PERT\)](#) is a Pre-ETS program for **high school students with disabilities** who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and who will be transitioning out of high school within 2 and a half years. It is a **school-to-work program** supported by WWRC and the Virginia Department of Education. Youth with disabilities **who do not fully meet the admissions requirements** may be considered for admission on an individual case-by-case basis.

DID YOU KNOW?

At WWRC your child can:

- ✓ Receive **guidance and counseling** to help them make choices
- ✓ Receive **therapies** they need to recover from a medical event
- ✓ Develop **new skills** for the workplace
- ✓ Participate in a **training or work readiness program**
- ✓ Be part of a **student internship program**
- ✓ Obtain a nationally recognized **industry certification**
- ✓ Learn **life skills** will help them live independently in the community with the supports they need
- ✓ Learn **"soft" skills** that will help them interview for, get, and keep a job
- ✓ Get help actually **finding a job**

Contact us

800-869-6782 / 703-923-0010

peatc.org

partners@peatc.org

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[Work Readiness Program](#) is a program provided for students under Pre-ETS and also available for adults. This program introduces **workplace readiness behaviors** to youth to assist them in transitioning into employment or further educational/training opportunities. Students receive instruction that meets their unique needs in 13 different workplace readiness behaviors. A few of these are attendance, safety, dependability, attention to task, personal presentation, response to supervisor feedback, and much more.

[Vocational Evaluation Services](#), through work activities, can help **your child figure out what they are good at and what they are interested in** along with helping them choose a training program and/or a career. A Vocational Evaluation at WWRC consists of a series of work-related activities that will help your child and the team determine skills, abilities, interests, and potential barriers to work like challenging behaviors. The result helps determine potential employment goals and the accommodations and services that your child may need to achieve those goals.

[Vocational Training](#) helps **young people over 18 to learn specific job-related skills and earn credentials** so that they can be employed in a career of their choice which can include internships in a workplace. To receive vocational training, your student will need to meet the eligibility criteria for the DARS Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program.

Admissions

WWRC accepts applications referred by DARS. The person must meet admission criteria. Applications are accepted throughout the year and are valid for 12 months. You can find out more about the specific criteria [here](#).



Vocational Rehabilitation Eligibility

To be eligible for vocational rehabilitation services through DARS, which includes training at WWRC, your child must:

- Be an individual with a physical or mental impairment that keeps them from finding and keeping a job
- Want to work and think DARS services can help
- Are living or working in Virginia (or moving to Virginia)
- DARS finds that there is a good chance that VR services will result in employment

RESOURCES

[Wilson Workforce Rehabilitation Center](#)
(www.wwrc.virginia.gov)

[How Vocational Rehabilitation Works](#)
(www.dars.virginia.gov/drs/vr/howvrworks.htm)

[DARS Pre-ETS and VR Transition Services](#)
(www.dars.virginia.gov/drs/transitionservices)

PEATC's mission is to build positive futures by empowering individuals with disabilities through education and training.



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