

440.00 Driver Evaluation and Training Policy

(April 1, 2002)

See corresponding procedure: 440.00 Driver Evaluation and Training Procedure

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Description

Driver Evaluation and Training is a means by which ACCES-VR can work with an individual with a disability and his/her family to determine if the individual can drive a vehicle, or, if not, what the needs are to be a passenger; and what type of vehicle will meet their needs.

Driver evaluation and training services may be provided to eligible individuals with a transportation barrier to achieving their employment outcome.

Driver Evaluation - to assess whether an individual has potential to drive a vehicle safely, what training needs there are and, determine if vehicle modifications, adaptive equipment or automotive equipment are necessary.

Driver Training - to teach an individual how to drive a vehicle. The individual will then be able to obtain or retain a driver's license.

Services

Driver Evaluation - This is an assessment of an individual's abilities and/or potential to become a safe, independent driver. The driver evaluation will provide information on the person's current driving ability, and when applicable, recommend driver training needs, and equipment needs for the individual.

Individuals with significant physical or cognitive limitations must obtain the driver evaluation from a ACCES-VR approved Driver Rehabilitation Specialist. For other individuals the option of obtaining a driver evaluations from an approved Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) driving school is available.

Driver evaluation is also used when the individual expresses an interest in purchasing a vehicle. A referral to the Driver Rehabilitation Specialist is done requesting an evaluation of appropriate vehicle and factory equipment the individual needs to look for, when shopping for a vehicle.

Adaptive Driver Training - The training is provided on a vehicle with appropriate equipment matched to the driver's needs. The training must develop "behind the wheel" competency in a full range of roadway environments to ready the individual for obtaining or retaining a driver's license.

Only individuals requiring modifications, specialized training and/or adaptive equipment because of his/her disability should enroll in this training. The training should be based on the evaluation report of the Driver Rehabilitation Specialist.

Driver Training - This training must assist the individual in restoring or developing "behind the wheel" competency in a variety of actual traffic situations to ready the individual for obtaining or retaining a driver's license.

Prerequisites: The following must be met before starting driver training:

1. Driving must not be medically contra-indicated
2. The individual has a valid driver's license or learner's permit
3. ACCES-VR has determined that the individual will have access to an appropriate vehicle for training and employment
4. Comparable benefits have been explored and the individual is not eligible for training services under other programs (e.g., Veterans Administration or High School driver training program)
5. When applicable economic need is determined
6. Public transportation or other means of transportation are either unavailable or unsuitable.

Reference:

Related Policies:

- 100.00 Consumer Involvement
- 208.00 Comparable Benefits and Services
- 441.00 Vehicle Modifications, Adaptive and Automotive Equipment
- 1125.00 Consumer Participation in the Cost of Services
- 1355.00 Transportation Services