

DSB/ARS

**Employment Opportunities
for Individuals with
Disabilities**

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE BLIND (DSB) ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES (ARS)



PURPOSE

**To enhance the lives of
individuals with disabilities.**

ARS

Our mission is to prepare a job-ready, career-bound workforce to meet the needs of Arkansas employers. We provide a comprehensive system of education and workforce programs and services to individuals with disabilities.

DSB

To enhance the personal and economic independence of blind and visually impaired persons of all ages in Arkansas.

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR THE BLIND

Presenter: Betsy Barnes, MPA
Assistant Director

DSB :WHO DO WE SERVE?

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

ADULTS

- Our Vocational Rehabilitation program, is designed to prepare individuals with visual disabilities to secure, retain, advance in or regain employment
- Individuals must have a goal of entering competitive integrated employment at the end of their vocational rehabilitation process.
- VR services can start as early as age 14.

YOUTH

SUCCESS IN EMPLOYMENT

Individuals with blindness and low vision have successful employment in fields of their choice.

CAREER FIELDS

- Computer Network Engineer
- Software Developer
- Business Operations Specialist
- Physical and Occupational Therapist
- Writers and Journalist
- Massage Therapist
- Accessible Website Developer
- Counselors and Social Workers
- Customer Service
- Attorney
- Management/CEO
- Teachers / Instructors
- Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurse
- Retail Employees
- Healthcare Provider
- Correctional Officer



Orientation and Mobility Training

- Training a person with vision loss to travel efficiently, safely, and independently
- Enables them to learn to get to work safely and on time
- Be able to navigate their working environment
- Utilize additional GPS technology



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY



- **VIDEO MAGNIFIER** – reads hard copy printed materials
- **SMARTPHONE APP** – takes a picture of written text and reads it out loud
- **SCREEN READING SOFTWARE** – emails, documents, spreadsheets, and more
- **OPENBOOK** – Scan, read, edit and save documents in different format
- **BRAILLE NOTE TAKER** – create documents, calendar, laptop w/o screen

JOB ACCOMMODATIONS

- Glare reduction and adjusted lighting
- Computer with screen reading, screen magnification or optical character recognition software
- Digital cameras, larger computer monitors, braille devices
- Large print, talking devices



DSB: VOCATIONAL TRAINING AREAS

1. Credit Counseling
2. Certified Medical Billing Program
3. Customer Service
4. Information and Technology for the Blind
5. Massage Therapy
6. Culinary Arts
7. Construction / Maintenance
8. Licensed Practical Nurse

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DSB: EMPLOYERS

1. Amazon
2. Arkansas Department of Human Services
3. Ben E Keith
4. Blue Cross Blue Shield
5. CHI St. Vincent
6. Home Depot
7. Kroger
8. Pulaski County School District
9. Simmons Bank
10. State Farm
11. Tyson
12. UAMS
13. Wal-Mart



DSB: EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

- Travel IT Supervisor for hospital group
- Non-profit Director
- Registered Nurse
- Accountant
- Walmart Marketing Manager
- Social Worker
- Business Owner
- Call Center Representative
- Elementary School Teacher
- Attorney
- Massage Therapist
- Phlebotomist
- Carpenter
- Training & Development Specialist



ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES

Presenter: Dr. Deandriea Bass-Carrigan, CRC, LPC, NCC
Deputy Chief of Field Services

ARS :WHO DO WE SERVE?

**RETURN TO
WORK**

ADULTS

Individuals with a physical or mental disability.

Students ages 16 or older are potentially eligible for services.

YOUTH

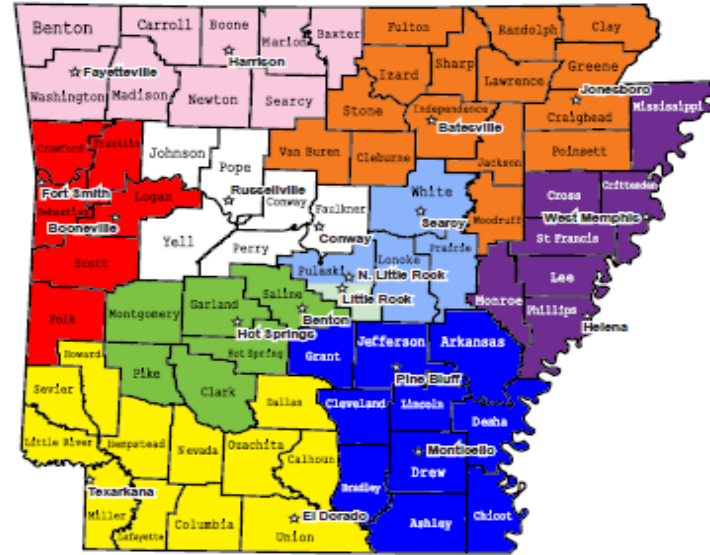
**OBTAIN/MAINTAIN
EMPLOYMENT**

HOW TO APPLY?

19 FIELD OFFICES

SERVING ALL 75 COUNTIES

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services Field Office Map



Field Services Leadership

Carl Daughtery, Chief of Field Services
Dr. Deandrea Bass-Carrigan, Deputy Chief of Field Services
Gaye Jones-Washington, Deputy of Field Operations
Kimberly Clayborn, Deputy of Field Operations
Kristen Sutterfield, Rehabilitation Program Manager

Region 1
Amy Jones, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Fayetteville: 479-582-1286
Harrison: 870-741-7153

Region 2
Monica Huseman, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Jonesboro: 870-972-0025
Batesville: 870-793-4153

Region 3
Everett Adamson, Rehabilitation Area Manager
West Memphis: 870-735-4725
Helena: 870-338-2753

Region 4
Dana Byrum, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Fort Smith: 479-755-3300
Booneville: 479-675-3835

Region 5
Andrea Gilliam, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Russellville: 479-890-5751
Conway: 501-730-9725

Region 6
Kimberley Baker, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Hot Springs: 501-623-4479
Benton: 501-317-1390

Region 7
Robin Hunt, Rehabilitation Area Manager
North Little Rock: 501-833-1490
Searcy: 501-268-4542

Region 8
Kensel Green, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Texarkana: 870-773-2807
El Dorado: 870-862-5451

Region 9
Sterling Hughes, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Pine Bluff: 870-534-2404
Monticello: 870-367-9669

Region 10
Darlene Owens, Rehabilitation Area Manager
Little Rock: 501-686-2800

HOW TO APPLY ?

ARS Online Referral Form

***This site is best viewed using the current version of Chrome, Firefox, and Safari.
If you are using an out-of-date browser or a version of Internet Explorer,
you may experience issues when viewing the site.***

**Required to answer*



ARS Referral Form

Directions:

If the individual answers 'Yes' to the questions, complete this brief form and forward to ARS using the link provided.

Initial Information

Do you have a physical, mental, or learning condition that makes it difficult to work or complete training for work? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Submit Form

WHO ARE OUR EXPERTS?

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELORS

- BACHELORS OR MASTERS LEVEL PROFESSIONAL
- HOLD OR SUPERVISED BY MASTERS LEVEL COUNSELORS
- HOLD OR PURSUING A CERTIFICATION IN REHABILITATION COUNSELING (CRC)

Vocational Rehabilitation Services



ARS: ELIGIBILITY

- Presence of physical or mental impairment.
- Substantial impediment to employment exist.
- Can benefit from services.
- Preparation needed to prepare, enter, engage in, or retain employment.
- Presumed Eligible :SSI/SSDI.

ARS: INDIVIDUAL PLAN FOR EMPLOYMENT (IPE)

- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor collaborates with the client and his/her interprofessional team to develop IPE.
- IPE will be developed within 90 days.
- IPE will identify employment outcome, objectives, criteria to measures the client's success, and the SERVICES.

SERVICES



Tools & Equipment



Diagnosis and
evaluation of
capacities/limitations



Guidance and
counseling services



Pre-Employment
Transition Services



Post-Secondary
Education
Assistance



Career and technical
education



Job placement



Physical and cognitive
restorative services



On-the-job
training



Assistive
technology

EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES

2211

1. Nursing Assistant
2. Cosmetologist
3. Janitorial Service Providers
4. Registered Nurse
5. Customer Services Representative
6. Production Workers
7. Retail Salesperson
8. Cashier
9. Truck Driver
10. Barber



COLLABORATION

- When your family members, coworkers, associates with disabilities needing employment assistance **Refer to DSB or ARS....**
- When there are employment opportunities....**Refer to DSB or ARS**
- You have individuals with disabilities needing training and/or if you are offering apprenticeships opportunities... **Refer to DSB or ARS**
- If you have applicants needing accommodations to obtain or maintain employment..... **Refer to DSB or ARS....**
- When you are looking for qualified applicants.....**Refer to DSB or ARS**

LET'S PARTNER



<https://arcareereducation.org/>

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DR. DEANDRIEA BASS-CARRIGAN, CRC, LPC, NCC,
ARS, DEPUTY CHIEF OF FIELD SERVICES

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501.730.9725

QUESTIONS





Thank You | DSB/ARS