

South Dakota
EMPLOYMENT
Resources for People
with Disabilities

Everybody Works,

Everybody Wins!





This resource guide is intended to provide agency staff and service providers with information related to employment resources for people with disabilities. The guide should offer sufficient information to refer people with disabilities to the appropriate agency, organization, or program. To order additional resource guides, call 1-800-210-0143.



Table of Contents

Agencies and Organizations:

❖ American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Programs (121 Programs)	1
❖ Career Learning Centers (CLC)	3
❖ Department of Human Services (DHS)	5
• Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)	5
✓ Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)	5
✓ Project Skills	9
• Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI)	11
• Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)	13
✓ Home and Community Based Services Waivers (HCBS)	13
❖ Department of Labor (DOL)	16
• Disability Program Navigators (DPN)	16
• Adult Education and Literacy Programs (AEL)	18
❖ Department of Social Services (DSS)	22
• Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD)	22
• Personal Assistance Services at the Workplace (PAS)	24

Table of Contents

❖ Sioux Falls Business Resource Network (BRN)	25
❖ South Dakota Advocacy Services (SDAS)	27
• Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)	27
• Client Assistance Program (CAP)	27
• Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)	28
• Protection and Advocacy of Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)	28

Other Programs and Services:

❖ Employer Resource Network (ERN)	30
❖ Career Development Team (CDT)	31
❖ DakotaLink	32
❖ Project Search.....	33
❖ Transition Services Liaison Project (TSLP)	34
❖ Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program (WIPA)	36

Agencies and Organizations

American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Programs (Section 121 Programs)

The purpose of the Section 121 programs is to provide culturally appropriate vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities who reside on or near Federal or State Reservations and who are a member of a State or Federal Tribe. Some examples of the type of services provided are vocational rehabilitation counseling, physical and mental restoration, vocational training, financial support for some expenses, transportation, interpreter services, job search assistance, job coaching, assistive technology, self-employment services and transition services for youth with disabilities.

Office Locations:

Pine Ridge Vocational Rehabilitation Project Oglala Sioux Tribe

PO Box 1985

Pine Ridge, SD 57770

605.867.5712

*(serving Shannon, Jackson, and Bennett
counties)*



**Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Vocational
Rehabilitation Services**

PO Box 506
Eagle Butte, SD 57625
605.964.4400
(serving Dewey and Ziebach counties)

**Vocational Rehabilitation Program
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe**

PO Box 109
McLaughlin, SD 57642
605.823.4222
(serving Corson county)

**Oto Kahe Teca Vocational Rehabilitation
Services**

187 Oyata Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548
605.473.5244
(serving Lyman County)



Career Learning Centers

Career Learning Centers (CLCs) work closely with the South Dakota Department of Labor to provide education and employment training services that meet the needs of local job seekers and businesses. The curriculum is personalized and self-paced to meet the needs of the individual. Career Specialists focus on the person's interests, aptitudes, abilities and motivation. Job seekers will learn not only how to look for a job, but also job retention skills so they will know what employers expect. Staff also offer counseling on topics such as budgeting, substance abuse and self-esteem.

Office Locations:

Cornerstones Career Learning Center

420 South Roosevelt
Aberdeen, SD 57402-4730
605.626.2298

Cornerstones Career Learning Center

33 3rd Street SE Suite 202
Huron, SD 57350
605.353.7175



Cornerstones Career Learning Center

1321 N Main
Mitchell, SD 57301
605.995.8070

The Right Turn

124 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501-2431
605.773.4755

Career Learning Center of the Black Hills

730 East Watertown Street
Rapid City, SD 57701-4178
605.394.5120

Volunteers of America

908 N West Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605.367.4293

Southeast Job Link

1200 W. 21st Street
Yankton, SD 57078
605.668.3480

Website: http://dol.sd.gov/workforce_training/clcs.aspx



Department of Human Services (DHS)

The mission of DHS is to promote the highest level of independence for all individuals regardless of disability or disorder.

Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)

The DRS assists individuals with disabilities to obtain employment, economic self-sufficiency, personal independence, and full inclusion into society.

Programs:

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)

VR provides individualized vocational rehabilitation and supportive services to assist eligible individuals with disabilities to get and keep jobs compatible with their skills and abilities. Examples of services provided are VR counseling, physical and mental restoration, vocational training, financial support for some expenses, transportation, interpreter services, job search assistance, job coaching and assistance on the job site, assistive technology, self-employment services, and transition services for youth with disabilities.



Eligibility Requirements:

- An individual with a disability which constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment;
- Able to benefit from VR services in achieving an employment outcome; and
- In need of VR services to prepare for, enter, engage in, or retain gainful employment.

Office Locations:

Aberdeen

1707 4th Ave SE, Ste A
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.626.2398 (TTY) or 1.800.439.3417

Brookings

1310 Main Ave. S., Ste 102
Brookings, SD 57006-3841
605.688.4280(TTY) or 1.800.382.2176

Chamberlain

320 Sorenson Drive, Ste 102
Chamberlain, SD 57325
605.734.4555 (TTY) or 1.877.873.8500



Huron

380 Illinois SW
Huron, SD 57350
605.353.7130 (TTY) or 1.800.439.3417

Mitchell

1321 N. Main
Mitchell, SD 57301
605.995.8072 (TTY) or 1.800.382.2176

Mobridge

1415 E Grand Crossing
Mobridge, SD 57601
605.845.2202 (TTY) or 1.877.873.8500

Pierre

912 E. Sioux
c/o 500 E. Capital
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
605.773.3318 (TTY) or 1.877.873.8500

Rapid City

Time Square Plaza
111-A New York St
Rapid City, SD 57701-1196
605.394.2261 (TTY) or 1.800.439.8861



Sioux Falls

Dept 21 811 E 10th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1650
605.367.5330 (TTY) or 1.800.265.9679

Spearfish

1300 N Ave
Spearfish, SD 57783
605.642.6815 (TTY) or 1.800.439.8861

Watertown

2001 9th Ave, Ste 200
Watertown, SD 57201
605.882.5150 (TTY) or 1.866.261.9261

Yankton

3113 Spruce, Ste 115
Yankton, SD 57078
605.668.3050 (TTY) or 1.800.265.9677

Website: <http://dhs.sd.gov/drs/vocrehab/vr.aspx>



Project Skills

Project Skills is a paid work experience program for high school students with disabilities. The program is a cooperative arrangement between the state vocational rehabilitation agencies and the local school districts.

Project Skills provides students the opportunity to learn different skills in a variety of job placements, with the assistance of a job coach. The work experience can last from a minimum of 50 to a maximum of 250 hours, but students cannot work over 40 hours per week.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Be 16 years or older.
- Be enrolled in a certified high school program and meet acceptable academic and attendance requirements.
- Have an employment experience as part of the Individual Education Program (IEP) unless waived by the VR counselor.
- Apply for and be determined eligible for vocational rehabilitation services through either the Division of Rehabilitation Services or Service to the Blind & Visually Impaired.



Office Locations:

For more information about the Project Skills program, contact:

- Your local VR Office (see list of offices under DRS) or
- Your local SBVI Office (see list of offices under SBVI) or
- Transition Coordinator, 221 South Central Ave, Pierre SD 57501, 605.224.5336 (V/TTY), 1.800.224.5336 (V/TTY) or
- Your local school district.



Service to the Blind & Visually Impaired (SBVI)

The SBVI provides individualized rehabilitation services that result in optimal employment and independent living outcomes for citizens who are blind or visually impaired. Rehabilitation Counselors provide guidance and deliver services that allow consumers to select occupations of their own choosing.

Some of the services provided through SBVI are assistive technology, independent living, low vision services, vocational counseling, and work skills training.

Office Locations:

1707 4th Avenue SE, Suite A
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Phone/TTY: 605.626.2395 / 626.2398
1.800.439.3417

Time Square Plaza, 111-A New York Street
Rapid City, SD 57701-1196
Phone/TTY: 605.394.2253 / 394.2261
800.439.8861



811 East 10 Street, Dept 22
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1650
Phone/TTY: 605.367.5330 / 367.5323
800.265.9679

912 E Sioux Ave, c/o 500 E Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone/TTY: 605.773.3318 / 773.3318
877.873.8500



Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

The Division of Developmental Disabilities ensures that people with developmental disabilities have equal opportunities and receive the services and supports they need to live and work in South Dakota communities.

Home and Community Based Services Waivers (HCBS)

HCBS waiver funding can be used to serve children and adults.

Choices Waiver

Examples of services that are provided under this waiver program include case management, training and habilitation services, pre-vocational training, and supported employment.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Receiving TANF, SSI, or a foster care maintenance payment under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act or



- Aged, blind, or disabled and have an income less than 300 percent of the SSI standard benefit but is not eligible for SSI.
- Additionally, applicant must be:
- Developmentally disabled;
- Appropriate for HCBS placement; and
- In need of and eligible for placement in an intermediate care facility.
- Applicant does not qualify if denied SSI disability benefits.

Contact Information:

Division of Developmental Disabilities
Department of Human Services
Hillsview Plaza, E. Hwy 34
c/o 500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
800.265.9684
E-Mail: infodd@state.sd.us

Family Support Waiver

The Family Support Waiver is designed to help children and adults stay with their family or in their own home. The waiver provides a wide range of services and support for families of children with a developmental disability and for



adults with a developmental disability. Supported employment, service coordination, personal care, and companion care along with a variety of other services are provided.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must have a disability as determined by the Social Security Administration;
- Must be living in his/her own home or a family member's home;
- Must have a monthly income less than 300% of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Standard Benefit Amount *; and
- Must have resources less than \$2000.

* There are no family income guidelines.

Contact Information:

Division of Developmental Disabilities
Department of Human Services
Hillsview Plaza, E. Hwy 34
c/o 500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
1.800.265.9684
Website: <http://dhs.sd.gov/dd/family/index.aspx>



Department of Labor (DOL)

The DOL enhances the South Dakota workforce by providing businesses with employment-related solutions and helping people with job placement and career transition services.

Programs:

Disability Program Navigators (DPNs)

DPNs are trained professionals who help link job seekers with disabilities to the career-related resources available at local South Dakota DOL offices and other agencies across the state.

Office Locations:

Aberdeen

(serving Aberdeen, Watertown, Huron, Mobridge and Sisseton)
605.626.2340

Rapid City

(serving Rapid City, Spearfish, Hot Springs, Pierre and Pine Ridge)
605.394.2296



Sioux Falls

(serving Sioux Falls, Mitchell, Madison and Brookings)

605.367.5300

Yankton

(serving Yankton, Vermillion, North Sioux City and Winner)

605.668.2900



Adult Education and Literacy (AEL)

The DOL supports the AEL programs, which assist adults in:

- obtaining the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency,
- becoming literate,
- becoming partners in their children's education and
- completing their General Educational Development (GED) degree.

Program Locations:

Aberdeen Career Planning Center

420 S. Roosevelt
Aberdeen, SD 57402
605.626.2298

Brookings Area Career Learning Center

1310 S. Main Ave, Suite 104
Brookings, SD 57006
605.688.4370



Cornerstones Career Learning Center

33 Third Street SE, Suite 202

Huron, SD 57350

605.353.7175

Website: www.cornerstonescareer.com

Kyle

P.O. Box 490

Kyle, SD 57752

605.455.6051

Madison Career Learning Center

223 South Van Eps Avenue, Suite 103

Madison, SD 57042

605.256.5320

Sinte Gleska University – AEL Program

Highway 18

Mission, SD

605.835.8275

Cornerstones Career Learning Center

1321 N Main

Mitchell, SD 57301

605.995.8070



The Right Turn, Inc.

124 East Dakota Ave

Pierre, SD 57501

605.773.4755

Website: www.therightturn.org

Career Learning Center of the Black Hills

730 E Watertown Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

605.394.5120

Website: www.clcbh.org

Refugee and Immigration Center

1609 W. 11th Street

Sioux Falls, SD

605.731.2040

Website: www.southeastjoblink.org

SD Department of Corrections

4101 S. Westport Ave, Suite 3

Sioux Falls, SD 57106

605.332.3803

Southeast Technical Institute

2320 N Career Place

Sioux Falls, SD 57107

605.367.7997



Floyd Career Learning Center – Volunteers of America

908 West Avenue North
Sioux Falls, SD 57109
605.367.4293

Southeast Job Link

904 West 23rd Street, Suite 108
Yankton, SD 57078
605.668.3480

Watertown Career Learning Center

2001 9th Ave SW, Suite 100
Watertown, SD 57201
605.882.5080



Department of Social Services (DSS)

The DSS strives to strengthen and support individuals and families by fostering independence and personal responsibility, protecting people, providing opportunities for individuals to achieve their full potential, and promoting healthy families and safe communities.

Programs:

Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD)

MAWD is an incentive for people with disabilities to return to work or remain working and provides healthcare coverage through Medicaid.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be employed,
- Must have a significant disability,
- Must have countable resources of less than \$8,000 and
- Must have less than \$694 of monthly unearned income (such as VA benefits or SSDI - not money earned from a job or business).



Contact Information:

Local Department of Social Services office
1.877.999.5612 or <http://dss.sd.gov/offices>

Local Division of Rehabilitation Services office
<http://dhs.sd.gov/drs/vocrehab/vr.aspx> (or see list of offices under DRS)

Local Division of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired office
<http://dhs.sd.gov/sbvi/address.aspx> (or see list of offices under SBVI)



Personal Assistance Services (PAS) at the workplace

PAS are medical, hands-on services provided at the workplace that assist people with disabilities to maintain employment. Services include basic personal care and grooming, assistance with meal preparation, range of motion exercises, assistance with medication and maintenance nursing.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be eligible for Medicaid,
- Must be employed for at least 40 hours per month and
- Must be 18 to 64 years of age.

Contact Information:

Department of Human Services
Division of Rehabilitation Services
Hillsview Properties Plaza
3800 East Hwy 34
Pierre, SD 57501
605.773.3195



Sioux Falls Business Resource Network (SFBRN)

The SFBRN is a nonprofit corporation promoting the hiring of people with disabilities by the local labor market. SFBRN works to enhance and improve the employment climate in the Sioux Falls area by promoting the advantages of hiring persons with disabilities, educating employers and the public, and by fostering an environment that will assist businesses in improving their production and efficiency.

The SFBRN carries out the following objectives:

- Provides educational opportunities regarding the employment of persons with disabilities.
- Creates a greater awareness of the benefits of hiring persons with disabilities.
- Acts as a resource for prospective employees and employers regarding employment opportunities and worksite modifications.
- Provides a variety of services to the community including the scheduling and coordination of activities and events.



- Serves as a clearinghouse for information and resources that will promote and sustain the employment of persons with disabilities.
- Creates a measurement tool to assess the effectiveness of the corporation regarding the hiring of persons with disabilities.
- Acts as a catalyst for improving communications and services among organizations designed to assist persons with disabilities in securing and maintaining employment.
- Develops a marketing strategy focusing on corporations, educational institutions, and service organizations.

Contact Information:

South Dakota Division of Rehabilitation Services

Sioux Falls, SD 57103
605.367.5330



South Dakota Advocacy Services (SDAS)

The SDAS protects and advocates for the rights of South Dakotans with disabilities through legal, administrative, and other remedies.

Programs:

Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)

The PABSS program is a federally funded initiative to assist beneficiaries of Social Security who are trying to return to or begin working. The project is staffed by licensed attorneys and advocates who are able to provide legal and advocacy assistance with return-to-work issues.

Client Assistance Program (CAP)

CAP advises people of their rights and responsibilities in the process of obtaining rehabilitation services and explains specific rehabilitation services and benefits available to a person with a disability. If an individual is denied services or is in disagreement with the services being provided, CAP can assist in the appeal process. CAP also informs people of their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).



Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)

The PAIR program protects the legal and human rights of eligible individuals with disabilities who have issues with employment or public accommodations. Some examples of areas where the PAIR program can provide assistance include: information and referral services, SSI/SSDI appeals beginning at the hearing level, education issues, abuse and neglect, and public accommodations.

Protection and Advocacy of Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)

The PATBI program provides assistance and/or representation to individuals with traumatic brain injury in the areas of abuse and neglect, rights violations, employment discrimination, housing, community based services, health care services and financial entitlements including social security, transportation and educational services.



Contact Information:

South Dakota Advocacy Services

221 South Central Ave

Pierre, SD 57501

800.658.4782(voice/TDD)

Email: sdas@sdadvocacy.com

Website: www.sdadvocacy.com

Other Programs and Services

Employer Resource Network (ERN)

ERN was established as a diversity initiative to address labor needs in communities by connecting employers and rehabilitation professionals as well as providing a qualified applicant pool to employers. ERN provides an opportunity for networking between employers, Human Resource Managers, Rehabilitation Providers and potential job candidates. By being a part of an ERN, employers can learn information about the ADA, disability etiquette, and hiring incentives. Each ERN project can take a different identity depending on the needs of the community.

Contact Information:

Aberdeen Area Rehabilitation Services Office
1704 4th Ave SE, Suite A
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.626.2398
800.439.3417



Career Development Team (CDT)

The CDT is a group of community members who are committed to supporting people with disabilities in reaching their career goals. Depending on the individual's career goals, teams can be made up of people from several different parts of the community such as human resources personnel, benefits specialists, rehabilitation counselors, job developers, successfully employed persons with a disability, career center staff, employers, and post-secondary institution staff.

Contact Information:

800.210.0143

Email: shellyp@sd-ccd.org



DakotaLink

DakotaLink is a one stop, turnkey solution for assistive technology needs. They provide a wide selection of products at competitive prices. DakotaLink also provides consultation, assessment, installation, and training. Technicians are available to provide equipment and services to individuals with varying needs of all ages in and around South Dakota. Staff are located in many locations throughout South Dakota in addition to Demonstration/Evaluation Centers located in Aberdeen, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls.

Contact Information:

DakotaLink — Main Office
1161 Deadwood Ave. Suite #5
Rapid City, SD 57702
Call 1-800-645-0673
Or 605-394-6742



Project Search

Project Search is a one year High School Transition Program for students with disabilities in their last year of high school. It is targeted for students whose main goal is competitive employment. The program takes place in a healthcare or business setting where total immersion in the workplace facilitates the teaching and learning process through continuous feedback and application of new skills. Individualized job development and placement begins after the onsite learning process is complete.

Contact Information:

Transition Services Liaison Project
221 South Central Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
605.224.5336
Website: <http://www.tslp.org/>



Transition Services Liaison Project (TSLP)

Transition services are a coordinated set of activities that are focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the student with a disability to facilitate the child's movement from school to post-school activities. The TSLP assists students with disabilities, their families, schools, and adult service agencies to make the transition from high school to post-school a meaningful experience.

Contact Information:

Transition Coordinator

221 South Central Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
605.224.5336 (V/TTY)
800.224.5336 (V/TTY)

Regional Transition Liaisons:

Southeastern Region

811 East 10th St., Dept. 21
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1650
605.367.5330



North Central Region
1707 4th Ave SE Suite A
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.626.2398

Western Region
PO Box 218
Sturgis, SD 57785
605.347.4467

South Central Region
380 Illinois SW
Huron, SD 57350
605.353.8571



Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program (WIPA)

The South Dakota WIPA can help people learn about their disability benefits if they are working or considering entering the workforce. Information is provided on an individual basis by a Community Work Incentive Coordinator (CWIC). The CWIC can explain Social Security work incentives which are supports that can help people work and become self-sufficient. All Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries age 14 and over are eligible for WIPA services.

Contact Information:

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative

221 South Central Ave.

Pierre, SD 57501

605.224.6287 or 800.224.5336

Email: wipahelp@tie.net

Website: www.bhssc.org/content/services/wipa.htm

A publication of the Freedom To Work Project, affiliated with the Black Hills Special Services Cooperative and South Dakota Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities. Freedom To Work is a program of the State of South Dakota through the Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services. Funding is provided through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Grant # P-91485/8

