



Vocational Services

PHILOSOPHY

Vocational Staff hold the basic belief that services must be provided in a responsive, flexible, and timely manner. Services will be offered in the best interest of the individual and will address needs as expressed by the individual.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Services are provided to Piatt County residents age 18 or older who are no longer in high school. Individuals must have a vocational disability and be found eligible for services through the Department of Rehabilitation (DRS). Center staff provide referral linkage to DRS.

Services Offered at The Center

JOB DEVELOPMENT

Individuals are assisted in skills necessary to obtain employment. Skills may include resume building, grooming, appropriate social skills, and interviewing. Job development utilization is based upon plans written by the Department of Rehabilitation Services counselor.

JOB COACHING

Individuals receive on-the-job training to promote successful employment. Job Coaching is a tiered system developed by DRS. When job coaching is no longer needed, natural supports assist the individual.

Vocational Services are made available through a grant from the Department of Rehabilitative Services. Private pay options are available to individuals who do not meet initial criteria or require ongoing support beyond DRS contracts.

*For more information, contact **Amy McDermith**, Director of Developmental Services, and amcdermith@pcmh.org or 217.762.5371.*



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Tax Benefits for Businesses Who Have Employees with Disabilities

Businesses accommodating people with disabilities may qualify for some of the following tax credits and deductions.

DISABLED ACCESS CREDIT

The Disabled Access Credit provides a non-refundable credit for small businesses that incur expenditures for the purpose of providing access to persons with disabilities. An eligible small business is one that earned \$1 million or less or had no more than 30 full time employees in the previous year; they may take the credit each and every year they incur access expenditures. Refer to Form 8826, Disabled Access Credit.

BARRIER REMOVAL TAX DEDUCTION

The Architectural Barrier Removal Tax Deduction encourages businesses of any size to remove architectural and transportation barriers to the mobility of persons with disabilities and the elderly. Businesses may claim a deduction of up to \$15,000 a year for qualified expenses for items that normally must be capitalized. Businesses claim the deduction by listing it as a separate expense on their income tax return. Also, businesses may use the Disabled Tax Credit and the architectural/transportation tax deduction together in the same tax year, if the expenses meet the requirements of both sections. To use both, the deduction is equal to the difference between the total expenditures and the amount of the credit claimed.

WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT

The Work Opportunity Credit provides eligible employers with a tax credit up to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of first-year wages of a new employee if the employee is part of a “targeted group.” An employee with a disability is one of the targeted groups for the Work Opportunity Credit, provided the appropriate government agencies have certified the employee as disabled. The credit is available to the employer once the employee has worked for at least 120 hours or 90 days. Employers claim the credit on Form 5884, Work Opportunity Credit.

More information can be found at



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