

V O C A T I O N A L & P S Y C H O L O G I C A L S E R V I C E S



### **About Vocational & Psychological Services**

Vocational & Psychological Services (VPS) has been providing quality psychological services for over 55 years in Western Pennsylvania. The practice consists of two Licensed Clinical Psychologists, Martin Meyer, Ph.D. and Julie Uran, Ph.D., Board Certified Behavior Analysts, as well as master's level therapists and bachelor's level mental health workers. Vocational & Psychological Services has consulted with educational institutions, industry, social service agencies, state disability and rehabilitation bureaus, youth detention centers, residential facilities, employee assistance programs, medical/legal professionals, and in-patient addiction treatment centers.

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# **JOB COACHING**

## **VPS Offers:**

*Community Based Assessments*  
*Job Placement*  
*Job Coaching*  
*Extended Services*

Vocational & Psychological Services (VPS) Job Coaching Program helps customers with disabilities (e.g. mental health, developmental delay, head trauma residuals, and others) obtain and maintain competitive employment within the community. VPS has a specialty in working with individuals diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

<b>Lawrence County</b>	<b>724-656-6866</b>
<b>Mercer County</b>	<b>724-982-4790</b>
<b>Butler County</b>	<b>724-287-5604</b>
<b>Slippery Rock</b>	<b>724-794-1954</b>
<b>Beaver County</b>	<b>724-728-5724</b>

**VPSDOCS.COM**

## COMMUNITY BASED ASSESSMENT

Some customers may have had no prior exposure to employment and/or are uncertain as to vocational opportunities, goals and interests. A Community Based Assessment provides the opportunity for a customer to perform job tasks in real work environments in the community with the goal of discovering individual strengths, learning style, work values, job demands, needs and vocational interests. This consists of non-paid, short-term job trials within competitive work environments, typically for 20 - 25 hours total, at upwards of four to six different job sites. The job coach will accompany the customer and provide training as well as supervise, evaluate and provide feedback regarding job performance. The experience will help facilitate vocational goals and recommendations for further services to help the customer make an informed choice about the type of job in which he/she is interested and for which he/she will achieve future vocational success.

## JOB PLACEMENT

A VPS job placement officer will find the customer competitive employment within the community. Employment options are customer driven and determined by the strengths and interests of each individual applicant - career opportunities are matched with interests and abilities.

## JOB COACHING

Job coaches are trained individuals who will accompany customers to the job site and provide an array of job related services targeted at assisting individuals to maintain competitive employment.

### ***Job coach functions can include:***

- Assisting the customer develop a resume and apply for jobs in the community
- Helping the customer develop skills pertaining to the job application process
- Developing a behavioral management plan for behaviors that would interfere with employment
- Teaching the customer specific work behaviors and skills to the satisfaction of the employer
- Coordinating job accommodations
- Facilitating time management skills
- Training in assertiveness and social skills
- Training in the use of public transportation
- Helping to identify natural supports (e.g. connections with coworkers, supervisors, etc.)
- Recommending assistive devices (if needed)

## EXTENDED SERVICES

As the customer demonstrates skill acquisition, the job coach can begin to phase back services. The goal of extended services is to promote job longevity and prevent loss of employment. Services can include reinforcing natural supports within the employment site, such as facilitating coworker and supervisor relationships. The job coach can also provide on-site support including review of job policies and procedures and assistance with paperwork completion, punctuality, appropriate interactions, as well as continued training regarding job duties and obligations. Off-site supports could include transportation interfaces, hygiene, grooming or education regarding potential medical or financial benefits. The customer is assisted in linkages and follow-through as needed.

## ELIGIBILITY

If eligible, these services are free of charge to the customer. For eligible individuals, funding sources include:

- The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- The Office of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
- Bureau of Autism Services in the PA DPW - Adult Autism Waiver Services

## OTHER SERVICES

- Extensive Evaluations and Assessments
- Social Skills Groups
- Specialized Autism Services
- Wraparound Services
- Individual Counseling
- Group Therapy
- Family Support
- Anger Management
- Self-esteem Building
- Tutoring and Educational Support
- Training and Consultation for the Professional Community and Community-at-Large