

**WAC 388-891A-0900 What is a vocational assessment?**

(1) A vocational assessment helps to identify the type of assistance you will need to prepare for, secure, maintain, advance in, or regain employment. Each person determined eligible for VR services completes a vocational assessment to identify their VR needs.

(2) A comprehensive vocational assessment may be completed by each person determined eligible for VR services, and includes more specific information about VR needs than the DVR counselor considered during the eligibility determination.

(3) A comprehensive vocational assessment includes a variety of services, including counseling and guidance, to determine your unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice.

(4) The purpose of a comprehensive vocational assessment is to collect and review information you need to select your employment goal, including a thorough exploration of labor market information and job trends, as well as determining the VR services you need to achieve the employment outcome.

(5) A comprehensive vocational assessment is limited to services necessary to select an employment goal and develop a plan for employment.

(6) To the maximum extent possible and appropriate, DVR will use existing information to complete a comprehensive vocational assessment. Existing information may include, but is not limited to, information used to determine eligibility and information provided by you and your family.

(7) A comprehensive vocational assessment may include any one or more of the following as needed:

(a) Assessment(s) of the personality, interests, interpersonal skills, intelligence and related functional abilities, educational abilities, work experience, vocational aptitudes, personal and social adjustments, employment opportunities, and other vocational, educational, cultural, social, recreational, and environmental factors that affect your employment and rehabilitation needs;

(b) Assessment(s) of work, in paid or unpaid settings, as a method of evaluating and developing work behavior and capacities necessary to achieve an employment outcome, including work skills, attitudes, habits, tolerances, and social behavior;

(c) Referral for assistive technology services to assess whether services or devices could increase your ability to perform work;

(d) Benefits planning to recipients of Social Security disability insurance (SSDI) or supplemental security income (SSI) benefits under Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act to understand how income may affect those benefits.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.29.020(8) and 34 C.F.R., Parts 361, 363, 397. WSR 18-12-035, § 388-891A-0900, filed 5/29/18, effective 6/30/18.]