

Navigating Through Workforce Solutions and Texas Workforce Solutions

Family Literacy Conference - South Texas ISD

Jasmine Hernandez; Student HireAbility Navigator



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Thursday, November 3rd, 2022

Different Agencies

Texas Workforce Commission

Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services



(TWS-VRS) formally known as DARS, supports people with disabilities to prepare for, obtain and advance in meaningful employment by providing of range of services based on an individual's employment goals.

Unemployment Insurance



Unemployment benefits are part of an employer-paid program that provides temporary, partial income replacement to qualified individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own.

Workforce Development Boards



Workforce Solutions Offices offer one-on-one services that help workers find and keep good jobs, and help employers hire the skilled workers they need to grow their businesses.

Diferentes Agencias

Texas Workforce Commission

Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services



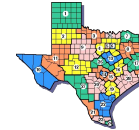
(TWS-VRS), conocido formalmente como DARS, apoya a las personas con discapacidades para que se preparen, obtengan y avancen en un empleo significativo al proporcionar una variedad de servicios basados en las metas laborales de un individuo.

Unemployment Insurance



Los beneficios de desempleo son parte de un programa pagado por el empleador que proporciona un reemplazo temporal y parcial de ingresos a personas calificadas que están desempleadas por causas ajenas a su voluntad.

Workforce Development Boards



Las oficinas de Workforce Solutions ofrecen servicios personalizados que ayudan a los trabajadores a encontrar y mantener buenos trabajos, y ayudan a los empleadores a contratar a los trabajadores calificados que necesitan para hacer crecer sus negocios.



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Guiding Principles

Vision

An educated and skilled workforce enriching the Lower Rio Grande Valley's economic prosperity.

Mission

To provide job seekers the skills, and businesses the talent, they need to be successful.

Core Values

Integrity, Innovation, Inclusion, and Impact



"Our goal is to empower RGV students with knowledge to help guide them in the right pathway, whether that is a 4-year college, a technical school, a trade school or transitioning to the world of work."

Francisco Almaraz - CEO

Workforce Solutions Lower Rio

Nuestros Principios

Visión

Una fuerza laboral educada y capacitada que enriquece la prosperidad económica del Valle de Río Grande.

Misión

Proporcionar a los solicitantes de empleo las habilidades y a las empresas el talento, que necesitan para tener éxito.

Valores Fundamentales

Integridad, Innovación, Inclusión e Impacto



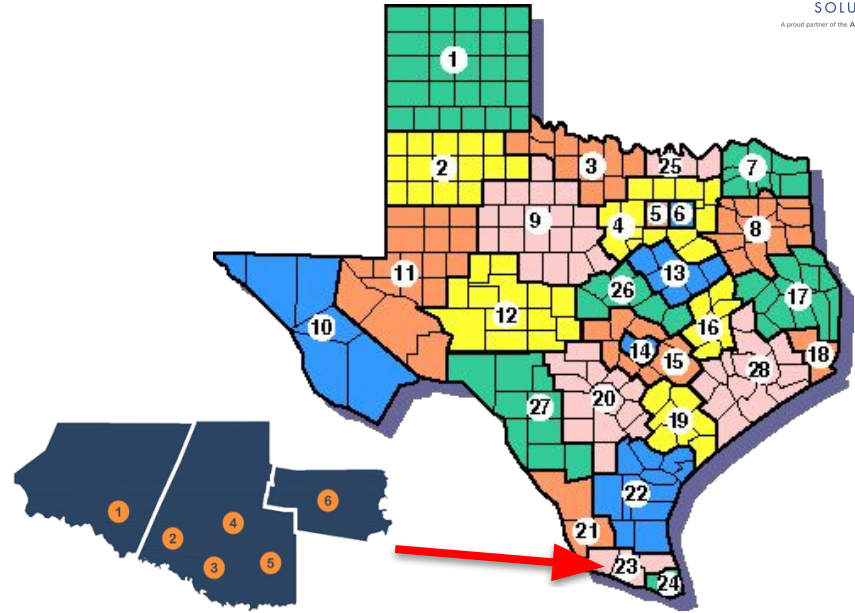
"Nuestro objetivo es capacitar a los estudiantes del Valle de Rio Grande con conocimientos para ayudar a guiarlos por el camino correcto, ya sea una universidad de 4 años, una escuela técnica, una escuela de oficios o una transición al mundo del trabajo"

Francisco Almaraz - CEO

Workforce Solutions Lower Rio

Workforce Solutions Lower Rio

- ❖ Workforce Solutions (WFS) is one of 28 local workforce development boards in the State of Texas
- ❖ It is identified as board 23
- ❖ There are six (6) Career Centers that serve Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties



*TWS-VRS Locations

*Limited Services Available

1 - WFS Starr County Office

3 - WFS South McAllen Office**

5 - WFS Weslaco Office*

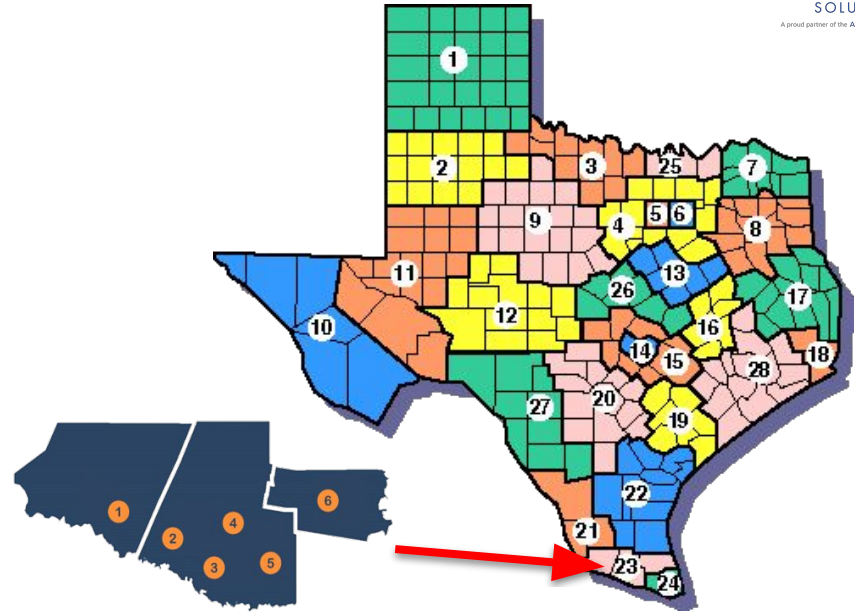
2 - WFS Mission Office

4 - WFS Edinburg Office*

6 - WFS Willacy County Office

Workforce Solutions Lower Rio

- ❖ Workforce Solutions (WFS) es uno de los 28 locales de desarrollo de la fuerza laboral en el estado de Texas.
- ❖ Somos identificados como el locales de desarrollo numero 23.
- ❖ Hay seis (6) Centros de Carreras que sirven a los condados de Hidalgo, Starr y Willacy.



*TWS-VRS Locations

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1 - WFS Starr County Office
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Services Available



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❖ General

- Internet Access
- Printing, Copies, Fax Machines
- Interview Rooms
- Resume Writing Software/Programs

❖ Job Search Assistance

- WorkInTexas.com

❖ Training

- Tuition Assistance for Short Term Trainings(Certifications/Associates)
- Work Experience
- On the Job Trainings
- Support Services

❖ Child Care Services

- Assistance Based on Income and Schedule



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SERVICES AVAILABLE

JOB SEEKER SERVICES

- Job Listing and Referrals
- Resume Assistance
- Job Search Assistance
- Job Preparation Classes
- Assessments
- Career Counseling
- Job Development
- Labor Market Information
- Child Care Services
- Veteran Services
- Unemployment Insurance Information
- Auxiliary Services
- GED/ESL Referral
- Training Funding Assistance

EMPLOYER SERVICES

- Recruitment Assistance
- Assessment/Screenings for Qualified Employees
- Facilities for Meetings
- Interview Room
- Classroom Training Facilities
- Resource Area
- Job Market and Economic Data
- Job Development Assistance
- Subsidized Employment
- Employer Initiative
 - Grant & Training Information
- Tax Incentives
- Job Accommodation Network
- Layoff Assistance
- On-the-Job Training

TRAINING SERVICES

- On-The-Job Training
- Paid Work Experience
- Registered Apprenticeship
- Paid Internships
- Occupational Skills Training

YOUTH/STUDENT SERVICES

- Leadership Development
- Entrepreneurial Services
- Occupational Skills Training
- Career Counseling
- Tutoring Services
- Career Exploration
- Paid Internships
- Job Search Assistance
- Financial Literacy Education
- Labor Market and Career Information
- GED Referral
- Auxiliary Services
- Adult Mentoring

CAREER RESOURCES

- Search for available jobs:
 - WorkInTexas.com
 - Wfsolutions.org/available-jobs
 - www.twc.gov/students/career-awareness
- Texas Reality Check Career Planning Tool
- Careers Are Everywhere
- Career Investigation
- Career Success
- Resources for Career Hunters
- High School Endorsement Bulletins
- Texas CREWS: www.texascrews.org
- Generation Texas: www.gentx.org
- Apply Texas: www.applytexas.org
- Jobs 'n' Y'all: www.jobsnyall.com
- My Next Move: www.MyNextMove.org

www.wfsolutions.org     [@wfsolutions](https://www.facebook.com/wfsolutions)

Availability of certain services depend on funding & meeting eligibility requirements.

LOCATIONS

EDINBURG 270 W. UNIVERSITY DR. EDINBURG, TX 78539 (956) 380-0068	MISSION 901 TRAVIS ST., STE. 7 MISSION, TX 78572 (956) 576-4300	WILLACY COUNTY 700 FM 3363, STE. J RAYMONDVILLE, TX 78580 (956) 609-3432	SOUTH MCALLEN 2031 S. 2ND STREET MCALLEN, TX 78501 (956) 322-0800 Limited Services Available	STARR COUNTY 2301 W. FINE BLVD., STE. 1 RIO GRANDE CITY, TX 78572 (956) 487-8300	WESLACO 2290 W. FINE BLVD., STE. 100 WESLACO, TX 78596 (956) 369-4300
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Equal Opportunity Is The Law. Lower Rio Grande Valley Workforce Development Board Owns Workforce Solutions Is An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program And Auxiliary Aids And Services Are Available Upon Request To Individuals With Disabilities. Tty/Tdd Via Relay Texas Service At 711 Or (Tdd) 1-800-755-2989/1-800-755-2988 (Voice).

Released 5/2022

Servicios Disponibles



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❖ Servicios Generales

- Acceso al Internet
- Impresión, Copias, Máquinas de Fax
- Cuartos de Entrevistas

❖ Asistencia para la Búsqueda de Empleo

- WorkInTexas.com

❖ Entrenamiento

- Asistencia de Capacitación para una Matrícula a Corto Plazo (Certificaciones / Asociados)
- Capacitaciones en el Trabajo
- Servicios de Apoyo

❖ Servicios de Cuidado Infantil

Asistencia basada en ingresos y horarios



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SERVICES AVAILABLE

JOB SEEKER SERVICES

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- Jobs 'n' Y'all: www.jobsnall.com
- My Next Move: www.MyNextMove.org

www.wfsolutions.org     @WFSOLUTIONS

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Released 5/2022

Barriers to Transition Faced by Students with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities don't have access to reliable transportation

Parents fear their son/daughter will lose benefits if they work

Parents fear their son/daughter will be exposed to abuse and bullying if they work or go to college

Individuals with disabilities don't have the required soft and social skills to obtain/maintain a job

Employers have negative biases and fears about hiring individuals with disabilities

The Rio Grande Valley has limited resources and opportunities available to assist individuals with disabilities

Individuals with disabilities are given limited opportunities and expectations

Individuals with disabilities, parents, and service providers are not aware of resources available

Individuals with disabilities don't know how to self-advocate

Barreras para la Transición que Enfrentan los Estudiantes con Discapacidades

Personas con discapacidades no tienen acceso a un transporte confiable

Padres temen que su hijo/hija pierda los beneficios si trabajan

Padres temen que su hijo/hija esté expuesto al abuso y la intimidación si trabaja o va a la universidad

Personas con discapacidades no tienen las habilidades blandas y sociales necesarias para obtener o mantener un trabajo

Empleadores tienen sesgos negativos y temores sobre la contratación de personas con discapacidades

El Valle del Río Grande tiene recursos y oportunidades limitadas disponibles para ayudar a personas con discapacidades

A personas con discapacidades les dan oportunidades y expectativas limitadas

Personas con discapacidades, padres y los proveedores de servicios no conocen los recursos disponibles

Personas con discapacidades no saben cómo abogar por sí mismas

What We Do



Empoderar:

- Students and Parents
- Teachers
- Counselors
- Administrators
- Regional Level Staff

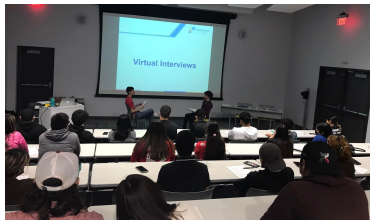


Presentaciones personalizadas Para:

- Classrooms
- Small Groups
- Large Assemblies/Conferences
- Virtual Presentations
(Zoom, Google Meets, GoTo Meetings, Microsoft Teams)



Lo Que Hacemos **Empower:**



- Estudiantes y Padres
- Profesores
- Consejeros
- Administradores
- Personal de Nivel Regional



Tailor Presentations For:



- Aulas
- Grupos Pequeños
- Grandes Asambleas/Conferencias
- Presentaciones Virtuales
(Zoom, Google Meets, GoTo Meetings, Microsoft Teams)



Transition Resources



[Job Readiness Curriculum](#)



[Career Coach](#)



Workforce Center Tours



[Interview Stream Prep](#)



[Individuals with Disabilities Page](#)

Recursos de Transición



[Estudios de Preparación para el Trabajo](#)



[Career Coach](#)



Visitas a Centros de Workforce



[InterviewStream Prep](#)



[Página Para Personas con Discapacidades](#)



TEXAS
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
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VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Purpose: to help people with disabilities obtain and maintain employment that is consistent with the strengths, interests, abilities, and aptitudes

- ❖ VR services are eligibility-based and tailored to the individual
- ❖ They are not intended to be emergency services
- ❖ They are not time-limited, but are not intended to be provided long-term
- ❖ They are arranged and provided by a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC), with consideration for individual choice

Servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional

Propósito: ayudar a las personas con discapacidades a obtener y mantener un empleo que sea consistente con las fortalezas, intereses, habilidades y aptitudes

- ❖ Los servicios de rehabilitación vocacional se basan en la elegibilidad y se adaptan al individuo
- ❖ No están destinados a ser servicios de emergencia
- ❖ No están limitadas en el tiempo, pero no se pretende que se proporcionen a largo plazo
- ❖ Son organizados y proporcionados por un Consejero de Rehabilitación Vocacional (VRC), teniendo en cuenta la elección individual

Transition Services

Transition services are a subset of Vocational Rehabilitation services for those individuals aged 14-22. These services are provided to help students with disabilities move from high school to successful work and independent living. VR provides transition services to students while they are attending high school so they will be prepared when they exit.

Vocational Rehabilitation services continue to be available after high school, if necessary.

Servicios de Transición

Los servicios de transición son un subconjunto de los servicios de rehabilitación profesional para las personas de 14 a 22 años. Estos servicios se prestan para ayudar a los estudiantes a pasar de la escuela secundaria a un trabajo exitoso y a una vida independiente. Servicios de rehabilitación vocacional se proporcionan a los estudiantes mientras asisten a la escuela secundaria para que estén preparados cuando salgan.

Los servicios de rehabilitación vocacional siguen estando a su disposición después de secundaria, si es necesario.

Services Provided in Transition

In most cases, the services provided to transition students fall into one of these 5 Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) categories:

- ❖ Career Exploration counseling - making informed choices about various job opportunities
- ❖ Work-Based Learning experiences, which include in-school and after-school work opportunities
- ❖ Job Readiness training to develop social skills and independent living
- ❖ Counseling on postsecondary training or other comprehensive transition Opportunities
- ❖ Instruction in Self-Advocacy - ability to effectively communicate, convey, negotiate or assert his/her own interests and/or desires.

Servicios Prestados en la Transición



En la mayoría de los casos, los servicios que se prestan a los estudiantes en transición se encuadran en una de estas cinco categorías de servicios de transición previos al empleo (Pre-ETS):

- ❖ Asesoramiento de exploración de carreras - tomar decisiones informadas sobre varias oportunidades de trabajo
- ❖ Experiencias de aprendizaje basado en el trabajo, que incluyen oportunidades de trabajo en la escuela y después de la escuela
- ❖ Capacitación en preparación para el trabajo para desarrollar habilidades sociales y vida independiente
- ❖ Asesoramiento sobre la formación postsecundaria u otras oportunidades de transición integral
- ❖ Instrucción en autodefensa- habilidad para comunicarse, transmitir, negociar o afirmar sus propios intereses y/o deseos de manera efectiva.

Potentially Eligible

Based on federal law passed in 2014, students with disabilities can receive Pre-Employment Transition Services without applying to the VR program.

To participate as potentially eligible they must meet the definition of a student with a disability and be between the ages of 14 to 22.

The services provided as potentially eligible are limited, but are meant to assist the student in their transition to life after high school.

Potencialmente Elegible

Según la ley federal aprobada en 2014, algunos individuos pueden recibir servicios de transición previos al empleo sin solicitar el programa de rehabilitación vocacional.

Para participar como potencialmente elegible, deben ser estudiantes entre 14 y 22 años y tener una discapacidad.

Los servicios que se proporcionan son limitados, pero están destinados a ayudar al estudiante en su transición a la vida después de la escuela secundaria.

Eligibility Criteria

If additional services are needed due to the disability, the individual may apply to the VR program.



To be eligible for VR Services the following eligibility criteria must be met:

- ❖ The customer has a physical or mental impairment (first criterion);
- ❖ The impairment constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment (second criterion);
- ❖ The customer requires Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services to prepare for, enter, engage in, or advance in competitive integrated employment consistent with the customer's strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice (third criterion); and
- ❖ The customer can achieve an employment outcome, unless pre-eligibility trial work experiences demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the customer cannot achieve an employment outcome because of the severity of the customer's disability (fourth criterion).

Criterios de Elegibilidad

Si servicios de rehabilitación vocacional adicionales debido a la(s) discapacidad(es) son necesarios, el individuo puede solicitar el programa de rehabilitación vocacional.

Para ser elegible al programa de rehabilitación vocacional tiene que cumplir con los siguientes criterios de elegibilidad:

- ❖ El cliente tiene una discapacidad física o mental (primer criterio);
- ❖ La discapacidad constituye o resulta en un impedimento sustancial para el empleo (segundo criterio);
- ❖ El cliente requiere servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional (VR) para prepararse para, ingresar, participar o avanzar en un empleo integrado competitivo consistente con las fortalezas, recursos, prioridades, preocupaciones, habilidades, capacidades, intereses y elección informada del cliente (tercer criterio); y
- ❖ El cliente puede lograr un resultado laboral, a menos que las experiencias laborales de los ensayos previos a la elegibilidad demuestren mediante pruebas claras y convincentes que el cliente no puede lograr un resultado laboral debido a la gravedad de su discapacidad (cuarto criterio).

How To Get Started...

Contact your nearest Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation (TWS-VRS) office.

For assistance in locating an office for Vocational Rehabilitation Services, please visit:

www.texasworkforce.org/offices/vr-general-services.html

You can also email vr.office.locator@twc.texas.gov or call (512) 936-6400 to be connected to VR staff.

Start My VR



TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

Contact Information



Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services

101 East 15th Street

Austin, Texas 78778-0001

800-628-5115

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Relay Texas: 800-735-2989 (TTY) and 711 (Voice)

The Texas Workforce Commission accepts calls made through any relay service provider.

Padlet



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Navigating Through Workforce Solutions and Texas Workforce Solutions

Family Literacy Conference - South Texas ISD

Presenter

Jasmine Hernandez



Student HireAbility Navigator
Workforce Solutions

Jasmine Hernandez holds a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitative Services from the University of Texas-Pan American. She currently serves as a Student HireAbility Navigator at Workforce Solutions, the local workforce board servicing the counties of Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy located in Texas. She has over 10 years of experience working with youth.

She completed her internship as a Job Coach where she assisted clients with disabilities obtain soft skills, develop a work routine, prepare for interviews and job search.

Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services



twc.texas.gov

Vocational Rehabilitation - Youth & Students

Workforce Solutions Available Services Flyer



PDF

2022 WFS SERVICES

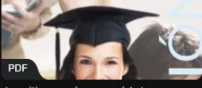
Transition Flyer (English)



PDF

transition-services-twc

Transition Flyer (Spanish)



PDF

transition-services-spanish-twc

Student HireAbility Navigator Flyer



PDF

SHN Flyer_2022

Wfsolutions.org



Texas Workforce Commission Resources

Labor Market Career Information

Click here to Explore

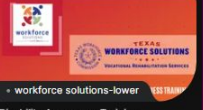


Texas Interactive
lmcl.state.tx.us

Labor Market and Career Information

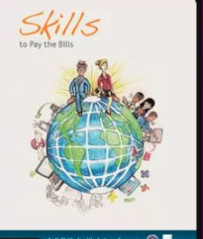
Other Resources

Disability Awareness Training



Disability Awareness Training

Soft Skills to Pay the Bills



Soft Skills to Pay the Bills

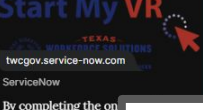
Navigate: Exploring College & Careers



Referral Links

Start My VR Interest Form Link

Start My VR



twcgov.service-now.com

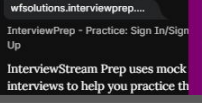
ServiceNow

By completing the on referral, [the student first step in [their] Vocational Rehabilitation journey.

- ✓ If [the student has] mental, or emotional affects [their] ability to maintain employment be eligible for our ser help [them] in finding meaningful employment.
- ✓ Please [have student guardian] complete the so that [VR] may con with a counselor who [them] more about the process works.
- ✓ Once information received, [the student contacted by VR staff time to discuss [their vocational rehabilitation journey].

Tools

InterviewStream Prep



wfsolutions.interviewprep...

InterviewPrep - Practice: Sign In/Sign Up

InterviewStream Prep uses mock interviews to help you practice the



Questions



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