

# Opportunities for Students and Youth to Achieve Brighter Futures



COMMUNITY LIVING • WORK • DISABILITY BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY

## Vision and Mission



The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) promotes equality, empowerment and independence of individuals with disabilities. These goals are achieved through enhancing and encouraging personal choice and the right to succeed or fail in the pursuit of independence and employment in the community.

MRC provides comprehensive services to people with disabilities that maximize their quality of life and economic self-sufficiency in the community.

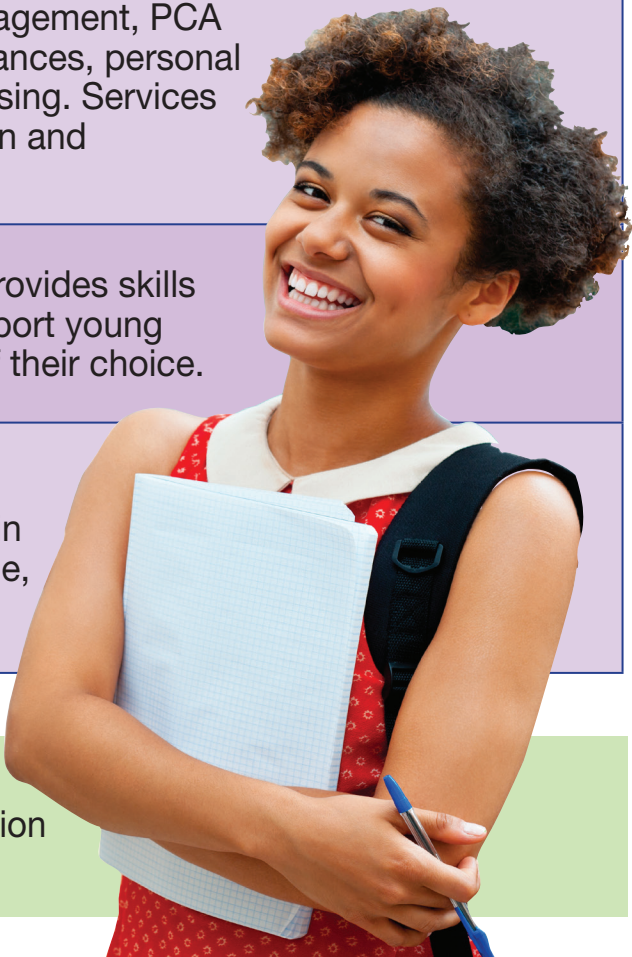
## Ready to learn more?

Contact your local MRC Staff Person:

**1-800-245-6543**  
**mass.gov/mrc**



Program	Program Details
<b>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</b> Ages 16-adulthood	Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services can assist students and youth in obtaining and maintaining competitive employment. Some services may include: assessment, counseling and guidance, training, education, assistive technology, transition services and job placement.
<b>Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)</b> *Ages 16-22	Services include: job exploration counseling, workplace readiness training, work-based learning experience, counseling in post-secondary training opportunities, and self-advocacy.
<b>Summer Internship Programs</b> *Ages 16-22	MRC offers paid internships and training opportunities at local companies and area offices.
<b>Summer Workplace Readiness Training</b> *Ages 16-22	A classroom based program designed to expose and prepare students for future work, including employer briefings and workplace tours. Priority is given to Chapter 688 eligible students.
<b>Transitional Internship Program (TIP)</b> *Ages 16-22	Through Independent Living Centers, the TIP program provides students with employment related skills, guidance, and paid internships to improve future employment opportunities.
<b>Family Supports Services</b> *Ages 16-22	Training, technical assistance and individualized transition planning with students and families to connect to supports and resources as students prepare for life after high school.
<b>Benefits Counseling</b> Ages 16-adulthood	Consultation and information for those receiving SSI/SSDI benefits, who need help understanding eligibility and the impact work may have on their benefits.
<b>Youth Leadership Forum (YLF)</b> Ages 16-25	An annual multi-day conference for youth with disabilities during the summer. The workshops and activities foster employment readiness, independence, peer networking, and leadership skills.
<b>Youth Leadership Network (YLN)</b> Ages 14-26	Regional workshops throughout Massachusetts on topics such as leadership, self-determination, peer networking, assistive technology in the workplace, and employment skills.
<b>Supported Living Program (SLP)</b> Ages 16-adulthood	The Supported Living Program provides youth and adults with physical disabilities and an additional secondary disability with assistance in managing and organizing day-to-day life. Services may include case management, PCA surrogacy, assistance with managing health, finances, personal affairs, skills training and finding accessible housing. Services can start one year before high school completion and can be on-going.
<b>Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP)</b> Ages 14-22	Through Independent Living Centers, the TAP provides skills training, peer counseling, and mentoring to support young adults to live independently in the community of their choice.
<b>Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP)</b> Ages 18 -adulthood (limited services available to consumers starting at birth)	Offers an array of services that are designed to assist youth with traumatic brain injuries maintain and increase their level of independence at home, work and in their community.



\*Students are defined as 16-22 years old and enrolled in high school or postsecondary education or training programs.

For more information, speak with your high school Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Liaison or call your local MRC Area Office for referral information.