

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)

Mission: The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) provides services that break down barriers and empower people with disabilities to live life on their own terms. Our programs focus on training and employment, community living, and disability determination for federal benefit programs. We are change agents and community builders. And we put the people we serve at the heart of everything we do.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Age 16 or older
- Must live in Massachusetts
- Meets the following criteria
 - Disability
 - This can include mental illness, developmental disability, and/or physical disability

Eligibility Application Process:

- Complete the MRC application online:
<https://massmrc.hylandcloud.com/211customcode/mrconemrc>

Next Steps:

- Applicant will be contacted by Connect Eligibility Screener
 - Applicant will have an interview with eligibility screener
 - Applicant will hear back from the screener within 1-2 weeks

Eligibility Determinations:

- Eligible
 - Applicant will be provided the name/location of their area office as well as case manager's information
- Ineligible
 - Applicant will be provided information regarding reason for ineligibility and any next steps

Many factors are considered in the eligibility process for adult services. The Ivy Street School provides supports to students and families as they navigate this process but refers to MRC for all eligibility decisions.

MRC Services:

- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS): MRC's Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) provide students with disabilities the opportunity to experience and explore the world of work. Together with provider partners across the state, we help students make decisions about their career

paths and create a plan for their future. Whether younger students are interested in learning about their first summer job or upper-level students are planning their career path after school, providers offer a wide range of possibilities for students aged 14-21 (up until their 22nd birthday).

- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR): The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program helps job seekers and students with disabilities to obtain, maintain, and advance in employment in the modern workplace. If you are unemployed or underemployed, or seeking work for the first time, our services may be able to help you with going to work, returning to work, or advancing in your job. MRC VR also provides job training services and services to students with disabilities to assist them in transitioning from school into the workforce.
- Home Care Assistance Program (HCAP): The Home Care Assistance Program (HCAP) supports people with disabilities needing in-home support that include house cleaning, laundry, meal preparation, grocery shopping, and medication pick-up.
- Supported Living (SL): The Supported Living Program (SL) assists youth and adults ages 16 and up with severe physical disabilities to live independently in the community. The program supports individuals in managing their daily affairs, such as managing Personal Care Attendants, paying bills and money management, finding, or maintaining housing, coordinating health services, and/or obtaining and maintaining durable medical equipment.
- Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP): The Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP) provides services to individuals living with a traumatic brain injury to assist them with living in the community, including skills training, adult companions, residential services, shared living, and access to Brain Injury Community Centers.
- Next Gen Program: The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC), and NextGen Careers is a new initiative to help young adults (ages 18-30) to explore the world of work. Next Gen-ers learn to advocate for themselves, gain confidence, and fast track their job journey. NextGen-ers will learn to advocate for themselves, gain self-confidence, and become self-sufficient on their career path. Whether you're interested in a certificate program, on-the-job training, apprenticeship, or an internship in STEM, NextGen will pair you with a team of dedicated experts in counseling, benefits, and peer support that will be behind you every step of the way.

Source: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-rehabilitation-commission>