

Tioga County Resource Guide

Children and youth with special healthcare needs and their families

The Special Kids Network Helpline – 1-800-986-4550

- Advocacy for special healthcare needs
 - [The Arc of Pennsylvania](#) [Website link]
The largest advocacy organization in the United States for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities containing 34 local chapters serving 56 counties across Pennsylvania.
 - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Select 'Tioga' County then select 'Advocacy and Legal Services' or 'Disability Rights and Special Needs Resources'.]
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
Advocacy and Legal Services
 - [Community Resources For Independence, Inc](#) 1-800-530-5541 or 814-838-7222
Offers independent living services to people with disabilities along with accessibility education, waiver information, independent living services, attendant care service coordination, assisting technology, and information and referral
 - [Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service](#) 1-800-932-0311
Pennsylvania Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service matches clients to a Pennsylvania lawyer in a specific area of law.
 - [Office Of Vocational Rehabilitation](#) 1-800-541-0721 or 814-871-4551
Please look on OVR Office Directory on website listed for the 21 District Office locations and phone numbers.
OVR provides assistance with obtaining and maintaining employment to individuals with disabilities.
 - [North Penn Legal Services](#) Bloomsburg, PA: 570 784-8760
Provides legal representation to low-income people. Offers assistance with the following civil legal problems: consumer, housing, employment, education, utility, family, public benefits, elderly, and domestic violence.
 - [Special Kids Network](#) 1-800-986-4550
Statewide referral service designed to serve families of children with chronic health of disabling conditions through information and service coordination
 - [Disability Rights Network Of Pennsylvania](#) Harrisburg: 717-236-8110; Philadelphia: 215-238-8070; Pittsburgh: 412-391-5225
Provide legal consultation and representation for individuals with disabilities and their families who are facing discrimination on the basis of disability and access to needed services along with providing information, referral and technical assistance to Pennsylvania residents with disability issues.
 - [Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network](#) 1-800-692-7443
The Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Network provides information on disability programs and services in communities nationwide.
 - [PA Client Assistance Program](#) 888-745-2357 or 800-323-6060
PA's Client Assistance Program is an advocacy program for people with disabilities seeking services in employment and housing

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- [The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights](#) 215-731-1447 or 866 LGBT-LAW
The Center advocates equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Pennsylvanians through direct legal services, education and policy reform.
 - [LGBT Youth in Crisis Hotline](#) 800 246-7743
Youth serving youth through age 25. Peer counseling, information, and local resources.
 - [Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Helpline](#) 888-843-4564
The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Hotline provides telephone and email peer counseling, as well as factual information and local resources for cities and towns across the United States.
- Disability Rights and Special Needs Resources
- [Pennsylvania Families Incorporated](#) See website for locations and listings.
PFI is a resource database that empowers PA families of children with special needs by linking them to support and information.
 - [Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services](#) Harrisburg: 717-787-6176;
Wilkes-Barre: 570-826-2361
Provides services to assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired in areas of specialized children services, finding employment, starting a business, gaining independent living skills
 - [Bureau of Autism Services](#) Harrisburg: 866-539-7689
Bureau of Autism Services is a department within the Department of Public Welfare specifically addressing the needs, issues and concerns of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders in Pennsylvania. BAS provides information on available services and waiver funding.
 - [County MH/MR/DS](#) Please see website for locations and phone numbers.
The Home and Community Services Information Systems offers a directory of all of PA's county MH/MR/DS. The Office of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Mental Development administers services and programs for individuals with mental and developmental disabilities
 - [Martha Lloyd Community Services](#) Troy, PA: 570-297-2185 ext 1268
Services for individuals with disabilities including community residential services, adult day services, vocational training and services, life sharing opportunities, and respite care.
 - [Northwest Human Services](#) 1-888-647-0020
Please see website for contact information.
NHS provides residential living options, case/care management, and therapeutic services for individuals with disabilities.
 - [Anthracite Region Center for Independent Living](#) 800-777-9906;
Hazleton, PA: 570-455-9800
ARCIL provides services for individuals with disabilities such as independent living skills training, attendant care services, transportation services, information and referral. The VITAL program (Vocational and Independence Training for Adult Life) helps high school students with disabilities learn skills necessary to make a successful transition from school to adult life.
 - [Goodwill Industries of North Central PA](#) 800-932-8270; Falls Creek 814-371-2821
Goodwill Industries of North Central PA provides supported employment program for individuals with disabilities and other special needs

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- [Center for Independent Living of North Central PA](#) Williamsport: 570-327-9070
CILNCP provides services for individuals with physical disabilities:
independent living skills training, service coordination, peer support, attendant care services, advocacy, information and referral
- [Partners In Progress, Inc.](#) Mansfield: 570-662-7026
PIP Inc provides vocational, social, and recreational activities for individuals with special needs.
- [Pennsylvania Association For The Blind](#) Refer to website for contact information
Providing services to prevent, prepare for, and manage vision loss with programs and services for both children and adults such as vision screenings, residential and vocational rehabilitation, transportation, transitional and Braille instruction, information and referral, support and advocacy
- National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-786-2929
Toll-free, nationwide hot-line for runaways and troubled youth. Provides information and referral for shelter, counseling, medical and legal services and transportation back home.
- [Kaleidoscope Family Solutions Inc.](#) Autism, IDD & Behavioral Team 877-384-1729; School Division: 800-908-0546
Kaleidoscope Family Services (KFS) is a specialized provider of clinical and therapeutic services directly to individuals as well as education-system staffing services. Services are delivered through its specialty division outlined below.
 - KFS Behavioral Therapeutic Services
 - KFS Autism Services
 - KFS Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services
 - KFS School Staffing Services
 - KFS Training Services
- [Pennsylvania Elks Home Service Program](#) Tioga- 570-537-3465
Providing support and advocacy services to individuals who have a developmental disability.
- Assistive Technology
 - [Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation](#) [Webpage Resource] 888-744-1938
Foundation's mission is to provide financing opportunities to people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians helping them to acquire the assistive technology devices and services that improve the quality of their lives.
 - [Roads to Freedom](#) Website link
Funded through **Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)** we provided Assistive Technology Services as an **Assistive Technology Resource Center (ATRC)** such as:
 - Public Awareness
 - Training and Technical Assistance
 - Acquisition of Assistive Technology Services
 - Equipment Reutilization (REEP & A New Start)
 - Device Demonstrations

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- Provide Funding Resources
- Counseling for special healthcare needs
- Day Care
 - [Pennsylvania Department of Human Services](#) 1-800-692-7462
Child Care and Early Learning services.
 - [Child Care Works Subsidized Child Care](#) Tioga County 570-662-2440
if your household income is no more than twice of the FPIG and your child is 13 or younger and you are a working parent or you are going to school.
 - [Pre-school Programs](#) 1-866-214-5437
if your household income is no more than the FPIG and your child is five years old or younger.
 - [Online Child Care Provider Search](#) Website address
The search will help you locate a child care provider that meets your needs and offer information on Early Learning programs. The Online Child Care Provider Search offers a portion of the wide spectrum of child care services offered by Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agencies. For additional assistance in locating a child care arrangement, [contact your local CCIS](#).
- Early Intervention
 - [Easter Seals Western and Central Pennsylvania](#) 412-281-7244
Easter Seals Western and Central PA is committed to providing exceptional programs and services for children with disabilities or other special needs.
 - [PA Department of Education Early Intervention Program](#) 1-800-692-7288
The Pennsylvania Early Intervention program provides support and services to families with children, from birth to age five, with developmental delays and disabilities.
 - [Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Early Intervention Services Website](#)
While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development. Children with developmental delays and disabilities benefit from the Pennsylvania Early Intervention program, a state supported network of parents, service practitioners, and others which builds upon the natural learning opportunities that occur within the daily routines of a child and their family.
 - [Tioga County Department of Human Services Family Services](#) 570-723-8191
Family Services opens doorways for Tioga County residents to prevention-based, family-centered services. Some services are offered through contracts with private providers. Others are provided by the Tioga County Department of Human Services in various locations throughout the county. Most services are provided free of charge or on a sliding fee scale, based on income guidelines.
- Health Insurance
 - [CHIP](#) [Web Page link] 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)

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Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program.

Covers all uninsured PA kids under 19.

- [COMPASS](#) [PA Dept. of Human Services benefits online application Web Page link]
[Select *Apply for Any Benefits* link to begin.]
- *Help with Medicare*
 - [APPRISE](#) 1-800-783-7067
a free health insurance counseling service
for individuals 60 and over.
 - [Tioga, Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna Counties Area Agency on Aging, APPRISE](#) 570-265-6121
[Apprise: (800) 982-4346]
 - [Medicare Part D](#) [Website link]
Information about the Part D prescription drug
benefit available to individuals enrolled in Medicare.
- [HealthCare.gov](#) [Federal Health Insurance Enrollment Website] 1-800-318-2596
- [HealthChoices](#) [Website]
HealthChoices will provide low-income Pennsylvanians with the opportunity to purchase private health insurance at affordable rates through a network of eight insurance private insurers, offering three or more health insurance plan options per region. Coverage will begin Jan. 1, 2015. Apply online at www.COMPASS.state.pa.us and learn more at www.healthypa.com.
- [Medical Assistance \(MA\)](#) [PA Department of Human Services Web link.]
Health care services for eligible individuals.
- [Pregnancy Insurance](#)
 - [Presumptive Eligibility](#) [Eligible uninsured pregnant woman should register with Dept. of Human Services, COMPASS and Medical Assistance (MA).] Presumptive Eligibility (PE) provides insurance coverage for pregnant woman who have applied for MA but are still under review.
 - [Maternity Insurance.org](#) [Website link]
 - [Pennsylvania-Health-Coverage.com](#) [Website link] 1-866-589-6215
Compare affordable maternity health insurance options.
- [Resource Guide to Healthcare Options in Pennsylvania](#)
For Children, Adults, and Seniors
The Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health, Pennsylvania State University
- **Housing**
 - [Juvenile Law Center](#) [Tioga County.]
Advancing the rights and well-being of children in jeopardy. 1-888-864-6393
Housing
 - [HUD](#) Philadelphia: 215-656-0500; Pittsburgh: 412-644-6428
HUD is a federal program that provides housing support for individuals in need such as rental programs (including Section 8) and home ownership assistance programs.
 - [Pennsylvania Affordable Apartment Locator](#) 1 877 428-8844
PAHousingSearch.com is a website in which affordable housing can be

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searched and located within in PA.

- [Northwest Human Services](#) 1-888-647-0020
See website "locations" for contact information
NHS provides residential living options, case/care management, and therapeutic services for individuals with disabilities.
- [Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity at HUD](#) 1-800-799-2085
Hotline service for individuals to report incidences of housing discrimination.

Shelters

- [United Christian Ministries](#) Osceola, PA: 814-258-7304
Provides services including: housing for homeless individuals with disabilities, Family Literacy Programs, Adult Education, and GED Preparation Classes, Nutrition and Parenting Classes, and counseling services.
- [Hope House at The Haven of Tioga County](#) Wellsboro: 800-550-0477 or 570-724-3549
Hope House provides 30 days of safe, supervised shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. While at Hope House victims and their children can receive on site counseling, support services, advocacy and accompaniment.
- [Catholic Social Services Of Scranton](#) See website for contact information.
The Catholic Social Services of Scranton provides multiple housing programs including shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing

Transitional Housing

- [Family Services Department](#) Wellsboro: 800-242-5766
Family Services Department at Tioga County Human Services Agency provides referrals to housing services such as temporary and emergency placement services and offers programs such as Supported Living, Bridge Housing and Housing Advocacy and Development.
 - [Martha Lloyd Community Services](#) Troy, PA: 570-297-2185 ext 1268
Services for individuals with disabilities including community residential services, adult day services, vocational training and services, life sharing opportunities, and respite care.
- Tioga County Housing Authority 570-724-1182
 - [Tioga Bradford Housing and Redevelopment Authority](#) 570-638-2151
Promoting adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

• Health Waiver Programs

- **Medicaid Waivers for Children under 21:**
 - [Attendant Care/Act 150](#) Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Enables individuals with a physical disability, ages 18-59, who are

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- mentally alert to continue to live in their homes with support and services.
 - [Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/OBRA Waiver](#)
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Provides services to people 18 or older with severe developmental and physical disabilities, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or similar conditions (onset prior to age 22).
 - [Consolidated Waiver for Individuals with Mental Retardation](#)
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.

 - [Person/Family Directed Support Waiver](#)
Provides services to eligible people age three or older with mental retardation so that they can remain in the community.
 - [Community Services Program for Persons with Physical Disabilities/Independence Waiver](#)
Long-Term Living Helpline, 1-800-753-8827
Provides services to individuals 18 and older with severe physical disabilities to allow them to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
 - [Infant, Toddlers, and Families Waiver](#) 717-346-1119
Supports Early Intervention services to children up to age three who would otherwise require the level of care provided in an Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Mental Retardation of Other Related Conditions.
- Respite Care
 - [ARCH National Respite Network](#) [Website]
for help with the Respite Locator Service please contact Mike Mathers at:
mmathers@chtop.org or by phone at 1-919-490-5577.
The mission of the ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center is to assist and promote the development of quality respite and crisis care programs, to help families locate respite and crisis care services in their communities, and to serve as a strong voice for respite in all forums.
- Special Education
 - [PA Bureau of Special Education Consult Line](#) 1-800-879-2301
Help for families and advocates of children with special needs can be obtained by calling the Consult Line or with the on-line request form available at: <http://odr-pa.org/contact-consultline/>
 - [Intermediate Units in PA](#) [Website Link]
Intermediate Units in Pennsylvania are part of the governance structure of public education and are located in the middle between the state education agency and the local school districts. They provide specialized services to local school districts that can be operated more effectively and efficiently on a regional basis
- Support Groups
 - [Parent to Parent of Pennsylvania](#) [Select 'P2P Supports Groups' link]
Linking families of children and adults with disabilities 1-888-727-2706
or special needs.

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- [PA Families Incorporated](#) info@pafamiliesinc.org 1-800-947-4941
Statewide network providing support to families raising children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and special needs, as well as serving as an advocate in the different child serving systems.
Updated regularly.
[Tioga County](#) [Select 'Resources' link on main page then select desired County.]

Women who are or who might be pregnant

The Healthy Baby Information Helpline – 1-800-986-2229

- Baby Supplies
 - [Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center](#) Canton, PA: 800-326-9953
All services are free and completely confidential. Towanda, PA: 800-326-9953
- Breastfeeding Guides If you need more information visit [Handouts for Parents](#) or call the Healthy Baby line at 800-986-BABY(2229).
 - [Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Referral Guide](#)
Arranged by County
 - [Womenshealth.gov Breastfeeding Challenges Guide](#) 800-994-9662
Information regarding common breastfeeding challenges
Office on Women's Health, US Department of Health and Human Services
- Car Seats
 - [Car Seat Safety](#)
The PA Child Passenger Protection Act requires that all drivers transporting children ages birth – four years use an approved child safety seat. Children ages four to eight must wear a seat belt and be in a booster seat. Children with medical conditions or disabilities may require special considerations or adaptations for transportation safety.
 - [The PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project](#)
Car Seat Loan Program by County - Information Hotline – 800-CAR-BELT
Training for school districts and companies 412-885-0266
on transporting children with special needs.
 - [National Highway Safety Transportation Administration](#) – 888-327-4236
Information on car seat safety and installation inspection.
 - National Easter Seal Society [phone listing] 800-221-6827
Referrals and information about car seats.
 - [The American Academy of Pediatrics](#) 847-228-5005
Referrals and information about car seats.
 - [Tioga County Department of Human Services Child Safety Seat Loaner Program](#) 570-724-5766
Offered in cooperation with the PA Traffic Injury Prevention Program, the loaner service provides safety seats for infants, toddlers and children under the age of 8. A nominal deposit is required initially, but is refunded if the seat is returned in good

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condition. The program also includes education on proper seat installation to ensure that the seat is still in safe condition and is still appropriate for the child's weight. The safety seat loaner program is open to all Tioga County residents, regardless of income.

- **Counseling**
 - [Nurse-Family Partnership](#) [select 'Find a Local Agency' for access to County list]
Currently no agencies are listed in Tioga County but there are listings in neighboring Counties.
A free, voluntary program that partners first-time moms with nurse home visitors. When you enroll in the program, a special trained nurse will visit you throughout your pregnancy and until your baby turns two years old. During these visits, your caring nurse will offer the knowledge and support you need to confidently create a better life for your baby and yourself.

- **CHIP**
 - [PA Children's Health Insurance Program](#) Call automated phone line at 800-986-KIDS (5437) and a CHIP representative will return your call within two business days.
Pennsylvania's CHIP program puts health coverage within reach for all uninsured kids and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance.

- **Pregnancy Insurance**
 - **Presumptive Eligibility (PE), Medical Assistance (MA)**
Presumptive Eligibility is a temporary program of health insurance coverage for pregnant women who are applying for Medical Assistance.
 - [PA Dep of Human Services Benefits Helpline](#) 1-800-692-7462
 - [PA Dep of Human Services County Assistance Office Contact Information](#)
 - [COMPASS](#) (PA Dep of Human Services) [Website]
Online application for Pennsylvanians to apply for many health and human service programs. Click on the 'Apply Now' button to begin or use links on right side for further assistance.
 - [PAHealthOptions.com \(PA Dep of Insurance\)](#) 1-877-881-6388
The Pennsylvania Insurance Department's Unbiased Guide to Understanding Health Insurance.

- [text4baby](#) Registration is free on the text4baby.org website.
Free text messages to keep you and your baby healthy throughout your pregnancy and the baby's first year.

- [WIC](#) 800-942-9467
Through WIC, pregnant women, mothers, and caregivers of infants and young children learn about good nutrition to keep themselves and their families healthy. WIC provides nutrition service, breastfeeding support, health care and social service referrals, and healthy foods to over 250,000 participants every month in PA.

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Lead health information for parents, homeowners, contractors, and healthcare professionals

The Lead Information Helpline – 1-800-440-4323

- [Elevated Lead Blood Level Case Management Guidelines](#) [CDC Web Page]
Recommendations from the CDC Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- [Environmental Protection Agency, Lead](#) [EPA Web Page]
Provides many useful links for families including:
[Lead Hotline – National Lead Information Center](#) link (800) 424-5323
- [PA Lead and Healthy Homes Program](#) [Website link] (717) 772-2762
The Pennsylvania Lead and Healthy Homes Program (LHHP) seeks to create safe and healthy housing by addressing environmental health and safety issues in homes.
- Certified Contractors
 - Locating EPA Certified Lead Contractors and technicians
 - [EPA.gov - Lead](#)
 - [PA Labor and Industry](#)
Link to list of accredited trainers and certified contracting firms.
 - Information for Contractors
 - [EPA - Lead](#)
Renovate Right for Contractors and Trainers
 - [PA Labor and Industry](#)
Certification and Other Requirements for Lead Occupations
 - [OSHA](#)
For information about regulations regarding work on facilities which are non-residential, contractors should contact the appropriate Occupational Safety & Health Administration Pennsylvania area office.
- Property Managers
 - [HUD – Lead Disclosure Rule](#)
Congress passed the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, also known as Title X, to protect families from exposure to lead from paint, dust, and soil. Section 1018 of this law directed HUD and EPA to require the disclosure of known information on lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards before the sale or lease of most housing built before 1978.

If you did not receive the Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based Paint and/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards form when you bought or leased pre-1978 housing, contact 1-800-424-LEAD (5323).

Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury and their families

The Head Injury Information Helpline – 866-412-4755

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- [Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania](#) 1-800-444-6443
Our mission: to prevent brain injury and improve the quality of life for people who have experienced brain injury and their family members through support, education, advocacy, and research.
- PA Department of Health Head Injury Program
 - [Head Injury Program](#) 866-412-4755
The goal of the program is to help individuals with a traumatic brain injury live independently in their homes and communities.
- Waiver Programs
 - [Independent Enrollment Broker](#) 788-550-4227
Office of Long-Term Living launched the PA Independent Enrollment Broker, a contracted statewide entity, to facilitate and streamline the eligibility/enrollment process for applicants seeking services for several PA waivers/programs.
 - [COMMCARE Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827
A Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
 - [OBRA Waiver](#) 1-800-753-8827
Home and Community based Waiver program that may help if you have a developmental physical disability to allow you to live in the community and remain as independent as possible.
- Other Information
 - [Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania](#) info@abin-pa.org, 1-800-516-8052
Nonprofit organization of brain injury survivors, family members, and friends dedicated to increasing public awareness about acquired brain injury, and to providing support, education, information, advocacy, and other services for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families.
 - [Brainline.org](#) - 703-998-2020
Preventing, treating, and living with traumatic brain injury (TBI).

Immunizations/Vaccinations

- PA Department of Health Division of Immunizations
 - [Division of Immunizations](#) 717-787-5681
 - [Pennsylvania Vaccines for Children Program](#) 888-646-6864
Free vaccines for uninsured children 877-724-3258
- [PA Department of Health, Health Services Locator](#) [Website]
To find a local health center close to you select your county.

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Legal advocacy for the disabled in Pennsylvania

[Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania](#)

Harrisburg 1-800-692-7443
717-236-8110
717-346-0239 [TDD]
Philadelphia 215-238-8070
Pittsburgh 412-391-5225

The mission of the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania is to advance, protect, and advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

[PA Health Law Project](#)

1-800-274-3258

Helping People in Need get the Health Care they deserve.

Advocacy on access to health care for low-income consumers, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Transportation Assistance for the Disabled

- [Pennsylvania Care Planning Council](#) Website address
[Community Disability, Assistive Technology & Transportation Service](#)
- [PA Dept of Human Services Medical Assistance Transportation Program](#) 570-659-5330
or 800-242-3484

Vocational Rehabilitation Assistance and Job Training for the Disabled

- [Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Vocational Rehabilitation Services](#) Website
The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, or OVR, provides vocational rehabilitation services to help persons with disabilities prepare for, obtain, or maintain employment. OVR provides services to eligible individuals with disabilities, both directly and through a network of approved vendors. Services are provided on an individualized basis.
 - [OVR Office Directory](#) - Arranged by District Office and by Counties Served