

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the VA website. On the left is the VA logo and the text "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs". On the right are links for "Search", "Contact us", and "Sign in". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with "VA Benefits and Health Care", "About VA", and "Find a VA Location". A dropdown menu is open under "I AM A...", showing "Select One". The breadcrumb trail reads "VA » Veterans Benefits Administration » Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) » VR&E Process". The main heading is "Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)".

## VR&E Process

The VR&E process is designed to assist Veterans with service-connected disabilities to obtain suitable employment and/or achieve independent living goals. It is comprised of several phases, involving tasks for both VR&E staff and Veterans to complete. Here is a general outline of the phases and tasks. (**NOTE:** The outline below does not represent and/or detail all possible required tasks as it is intended to only be a summary.) For more information on the VR&E process, please contact your local [VA Regional Office](#).

### Application Phase

- Applications (via eBenefits or 28-1900) to be submitted, received, and reviewed
- Veterans' eligibility will be established
- Veterans are scheduled for initial counseling appointments, if eligible
- Letters of eligibility will be sent to Veterans

### Entitlement Decision Phase.

- Veterans participate in a VR&E orientation session (see Letter of Eligibility for date, time, and location information)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors (VRC) will meet with Veterans one-on-one
- Discussion and determinations to occur on employment handicap and serious employment handicap (VR&E entitlement criteria)
- Vocational evaluations are conducted to assess skills, abilities, and interests

### Evaluation and Planning

- VRCs and Veterans work together to identify the most appropriate track of services, involving employment and/or independent living objectives after feasibility for employment is discussed and determined

- A vocational or independent living goal is established
- Services needed are defined
- A written plan of services will be developed.

## Five Tracks

- Re-Employment
- Rapid Access to Employment
- Self Employment (monitoring for 1 year minimum)
- Employment Through Long-Term Services
- Independent Living (24-month maximum with a possible six-month extension if approved by the VR&E Officer)

## Employment Services

- On-going case management to occur (maximum of 18 months)
- Employment services to be provided
  - eBenefits Employment Center
  - Resume development
  - Interview skills
  - Job placement assistance
  - Referral to DOL

## Rehabilitation

- Suitable employment is obtained and maintained for at least 60-days, **OR**
- Independent living skills have improved