

PIRS Hot Sheet

Advocacy & Services for People with Disabilities

VA Employment Services

Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) has Employment Coordinators (EC) as part of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program that assist Veterans and Service members. The ECs provide a wide array of employment opportunities through this program, to include:

- Assistance with labor market information;
- Employer visits to obtain more information on job openings and leads;
- Employer education;;
- Resume development
- Interview skills training;
- Job Resource Labs;
- Job coaching;
- Follow-up with Veterans and employers to determine any needs or accommodations;
- Ensuring www.VetSuccess.gov is up to date with employment opportunities.

ECs also assist Veterans with service-connected disabilities with the following programs:


- VR&E On the Job Training Program (OJT) – An employer can hire a Veteran at an apprentice wage and VR&E supplements the salary up the journeyman wage (up to maximum allowable under OJT). As the Veteran progresses through training, the employer begins to pay more of the salary until the Veteran reaches journeyman level and the employer is paying the entire salary. VR&E will also pay for any necessary tools. The employer may also be eligible for a federal tax credit for hiring an individual who participated in a vocational rehabilitation program.

- VR&E Special Employer Incentive Program (SEI) - This program is used for Veterans facing extraordinary obstacles to employment. A Veteran is placed in an OJT or a work experience with an employer and VR&E can reimburse the employer up to 50% of the Veteran's salary for up to 6 months. The employer may also be eligible for a federal tax credit for hiring an individual who participated in a vocational rehabilitation program.

- VR&E Non-Paid Work Experience Program (NPWE) - A Veteran is placed in a local, state, or Federal government office position. The placement does not count against the agency's Full Time Equivalent (FTE) openings and the agency does not pay the Veteran. VR&E pays the Veteran monthly subsistence allowance while the Veteran is participating in the program. During the placement, the Veteran works towards gaining and/or strengthening particular skill sets. Though the office is under no obligation to hire the Veteran, the goal of this program is for the Veteran to obtain full-time, permanent employment in the office where he/she is placed or a similar office.

Source: Veterans Benefits Administration, VA

ANNOUNCING NEW STAFF:


Rebecca Huntley
PIRS Systems Advocate
<rhuntle@pirs.org>
530-885-6100, ext. 15

PIRS Calendar

Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request to facilitate access to PIRS facilities and services.

In order to maintain a comfortable environment for everyone, we respectfully request that **no perfumes or other scented products** are worn when attending activities at PIRS. Thank you.

⇒ **Deaf Awareness:** Learn basic sign language vocabulary to communicate; informal class. For more information, call 530-885-6100 or TTY 530-885-0326.

Disability Peer Support Groups:

⇒ **Depression Support Group** – Friday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. at PIRS. This group is facilitated by Senior Peer Counseling Program of PCHHS. Call Tom Drake at 530-886-3413 for more information.

⇒ **Women’s Mental Health Disabilities Support Group** – Thursday 5:00 –7:00 pm. Call Leslie Brewer, ext. 13.

⇒ **Men’s Disability Support Group** – Tuesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Call Jeff Cowen, ext 15, before attending.

⇒ **Women’s Disability Support Group** – Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Open drop-in group. Call Facilitator Barbara Finn, ext. 26, for more information.

⇒ **Individual Peer Support – New Program:** If you live between Applegate and Gold Run and would like to talk individually with a volunteer Peer Support Specialist, call Leslie, x13.

⇒ **Auburn Post Polio Support Group:** meets 10 am, 2nd Saturday each month at Denny’s, 2480 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn. Questions? Call Ron Hill, 530-889-0291.

Auburn People First: self-advocacy for people with developmental disabilities

⇒ Call the Supported Life Institute, Self-Advocacy Coordination Project at 916-567-1974 for more information.

FREE Help with your healthcare services problems:

HICAP – Health Insurance Counseling for seniors and people with disabilities. Call Seniors First/SeniorLink at 1-800-878-9222 to make an appointment.

Mental Health Association of CA

Advocacy, education, information and other assistance necessary to ensure that all people are able to receive the mental health and other services that they need. 916-557-1166. www.mhac.org

HMO Help Center: State Dept. of Managed Health Care, free independent medical review (IMR) for denial of services.

Assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call (888) 466-2219 or (877) 688-9891 (TTY). www.healthhelp.ca.gov.

DRA’s Health Access Project: free publications about the health care and insurance rights and concerns of people with disabilities and serious health conditions. <http://dralegal.org/>, and click on “Projects”.

Mental Health America
In Crisis? 1-800-273-TALK
Pensar en Suicida?
1-800-SUICIDA (784-2432)

(Ellos son Latinos y hablan Español)

California AgrAbility Project serves agricultural workers with disabilities and their families. Call (530) 752-1613 voice; Toll free: 1-800-477-6129; fax (530) 752-2640.

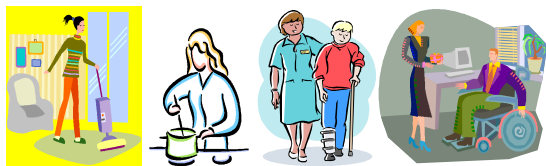
<http://calagrability.ucdavis.edu>

Your comments wanted:

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Division of the State Architect (DSA) are seeking your input on the public review draft of "*Plug-In Electric Vehicles: Universal Charging Access Guidelines and Best Practices.*" These draft guidelines have been developed by DSA to assist OPR with physical accessibility standards and design guidelines for the installation of plug-in electric vehicle charging stations throughout California. The voluntary guidelines address accessible plug-in electric vehicle charging stations on both public and private sites and within public rights of way.

Public review of the Guidelines began on April 9th and will end on Friday, May 24th. Please email your comments and any questions, or inquiries about viewing the document in alternate formats to:
ZEVfeedback@opr.ca.gov.

To view or download copies of the draft Guidelines, please visit:
http://opr.ca.gov/docs/PEV_Access_Guidelines.pdf



Do you need to hire an in-home personal assistant or care provider?

Are you a professional care provider?

Apply to join PIRS Personal Assistants Registry/Referral Service. (No fee)

To hire a provider, or to join our Provider Registry, call Tim Cooper at PIRS - 530-885-6100, x15.



Do you need some minor modifications to make your home safer and more accessible?

**Call Don Wixon, Coordinator of PIRS Minor Home Modification Program.
530-885-6100, ext 34**

ADA Checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html

www.projectovision.net

Información sobre nuevas becas, pasantías, puestos de trabajo, y recursos que le pueden ayudar en el cumplimiento de sus metas relacionados con la educación, el empleo, y la vida independiente.

"Navigating Government Benefits & Employment: A Guidebook for Veterans with Disabilities." Free download at:
<http://vets.syr.edu/pdfs/benefits-guidebook.pdf>

All combat Veterans discharged from active duty on or after Jan. 28, 2003, are eligible for medical care, five years post discharge. Any Veteran who served in a theater of combat operations may be eligible for complete health care coverage for five years after departing the service. Like any government program – there are nuances. Generally, this program does not apply to family members but might in limited instances - for example, caregivers. To determine eligibility, see the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) web site:

www.va.gov/healthbenefits/resources/eligibility_check.asp. If eligible, enrollment can be completed on-line, in-person, by phone or mail at: www.1010ez.med.va.gov/.

ADA CORNER

On Jan. 12, 2012, the FCC adopted rules requiring captioned programs shown on TV to be captioned when they are re-shown on the Internet. These rules implement provisions of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA). Starting March 30, 2013, when live and near-live programs are shown on TV with captions, these programs must be captioned when shown on the Internet. A “near-live” program is a program that is performed and recorded less than 24 hours before being shown on TV for the first time. Prerecorded programs shown on TV with captions are now required to be captioned when shown on the Internet, unless substantially edited first. Closed captioning requirements for other kinds of video programming – such as prerecorded programming that is substantially edited for Internet distribution – must be captioned at a later date. For information on filing complaints about communications accessibility, or to download FCC’s “Consumer Guide: Captioning of Internet Video Programming”, go to www.fcc.gov.

Free Technical Assistance:

- Pacific Disability and Business Technical Advisory Center (DBTAC) – Hotline provides free detailed explanations on ADA questions and Guidelines. 1-800-949-4232. www.adapacific.org.
- Dept of Justice ADA webpage: www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm
- Equal Opportunity Employment Commission – non-discrimination in employment: www.eeoc.gov.
- Job Accommodation Network (JAN): lists examples of accommodations that may be appropriate for various types of disabling conditions. www.jan.wvu.edu

- www.access-board.gov – US Access Board publishes access guidelines based on research about best practices.
- www.DisabilityInfo.gov is a cross-government portal on disability, and is easily accessible.
- www.ncaonline.org- National Center on Accessibility promotes access to recreational facilities, focusing on universal access and practical solutions by linking designers with users.
- www.firstgov.gov – a one-stop source to find any federal agency and other information.
- Federal Transit Administration – ADA Assistance line: 1-888-446-4511 or www.fta.dot.gov/transit_data_info/ada/
- Information on the U.S. Dept of Education enforcement of education rights (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA). www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/index.html
- Discrimination in air transportation and related services. Hotline at 1-800-778-4838 (voice) or 1-800-455-9880 (TTY) to obtain assistance. Complaints must be submitted in writing. <http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/>



Advocate for Your Rights!

Never take your independence for granted. Never ignore discrimination. Speak out and defend your rights to access housing, education, employment, transportation, health care, telecommunications, recreation, and all the other benefits our society enjoys. Get involved! Stay informed! Contact Rebecca Huntley: <rhuntle@pirs.org>; Call 530-885-6100, ext.15; or write: PIRS, 11768 Atwood Rd., Ste.29, Auburn CA 95603.

Advocacy Team Workshops:
Speakers and discussion on topics that impact your life. Watch for information from Rebecca and come join us!

To Contact Your Legislators online:

President: www.whitehouse.gov

Governor: www.governor.ca.gov

US Senators: thomas.loc.gov, then choose "Senate Directory" at top.

US Representatives: thomas.loc.gov, then choose "House Directory" at top.

State Senate: www.senate.ca.gov

State Assembly: www.assembly.ca.gov

Placer County: www.placer.ca.gov

El Dorado County: co.el-dorado.ca.us

Alpine County: www.alpinecountyca.gov



PIRS Board of Directors is seeking new members. In particular, if you are of Latino, Asian, African-American or Native American descent and have a disability, or have legal or accounting expertise, please consider joining our Board.

Please call for an application:
530-885-6100, in Auburn
1-800-833-3453 outside of Auburn area
530-885-0326 TDD
530-885-3032 Fax

PIRS Board of Directors

Dawn Davidson, President
Robert Hancock, Vice President
Eldon Luce, Treasurer
Dan Roye, Secretary
Michael Cummings, Director
Scot DeFevere, Director
Terry Scott, Director

PIRS Board Meeting:

Third Wednesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at PIRS.

Disability Rights Organizations:

www.ADAWatch.org: Advancing the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

National Council on Independent Living:
www.NCIL.org

Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living: www.april-rural.org

CA Foundation for Independent Living Centers: www.cfilc.org

Mental Health: www.Bazelon.org

Advocacy for persons with developmental disabilities: [The ARC.org](http://TheARC.org)

Disability Rights California: www.drc.org

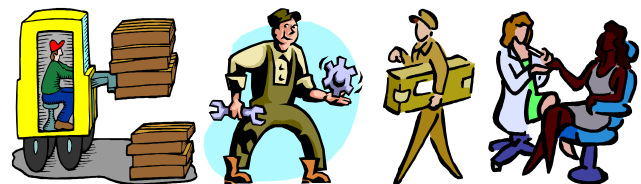
Disability Rights Education Defense Fund:
www.dredf.org

Not Dead Yet: opposing physician-assisted suicide. www.ndy.org

Disability Rights Advocates: dralegal.org

American Association of Persons with Disabilities: www.aapd.org

California Disability Community Action Network (CDCAN): Advocacy Without Borders: www.cdcan.us



www.disabilitybenefits101.org

Information on employment, health coverage and other benefits, and how it all relates to working. There's a unique "calculator" that will help you figure it out. You can work!

Placer Independent Resource Services
11768 Atwood Rd., Ste. 29
Auburn, CA 95603

Non Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Auburn, CA
Permit #130

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PIRS Hotsheet is available online at
www.pirs.org
For alternative formats, call us at:
530-885-6100 (v); 530-885-0326 (tty)

Remember our Veterans



on Memorial Day

*Please Include PIRS
in Your Will.*

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PIRS is funded by grants from the US Dept. of Education/Rehabilitative Services Administration; State Dept. of Rehabilitation; Area 4 Agency on Aging; United Auburn Indian Communities; City of Roseville; Community Technology Foundation of CA; James & Virginia Benson Fund for the Elderly of Placer County of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation; by contract with the Pacific Disability & Business Technical Assistance Center; and by private donations.

We need your support. Please make a donation to PIRS today. Thank you!

PIRS is a Certified Agency of United Way California Capital Region: **Agency # 5751**

