Do you want to enjoy the rewards of working?  

Meet NEW Friends?  

Be part of your Community?  

If you answered YES, we want to meet you!  

Ask your DARS or DBVI counselor to give us a call TODAY!

Contact Us

Rachael Rounds, Program Manager  
Phone – (804) 827-0754  
Email – roundsrs@vcu.edu

Valerie Brooke, Program Director  
Phone – (804) 827-1873  
Email – vbrooke@vcu.edu

Virginia Commonwealth University, Employment Services Division has achieved national accreditation by the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Business Connections

Virginia Commonwealth University

1314 W. Main Street Richmond, VA 23284
Why Work With Us?

Expertise...We have over 30 years of experience and are part of a larger research and training facility advancing best practices in hiring and employing individuals with disabilities.

Choice & Control...We encourage self-determination and informed choice for the individuals we serve as we partner with them to reach their employment goals.

Community Based Competitive Employment...All of our employed participants work in community integrated employment settings, have the same opportunities as other employees in the company, and earn a commensurate wage of at least minimum wage.

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Long-Term Workplace Supports...Vocational support services provided on and/or off of the jobsite allow for our participants to maintain competitive integrated employment long-term.

What Our Participants Like Most About Working:

- “My Coworkers”
- “Meeting New People”
- “To Be Helpful & Creative”
- “Everything”

Admission Criteria:

1. We serve individuals of employment age with significant disabilities.
2. We serve individuals in the Richmond and surrounding areas.
3. We serve individuals eligible for funding through the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) OR the Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBVI).
4. Generally, individuals are not employed at the time of referral; however, we welcome individuals who are:
   - underemployed looking to advance their career,
   - individuals needing more intensive supports to maintain employment,
   - as well as individuals that need community support services to maintain employment.
5. Services will not be denied to anyone based on race, gender, age, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or disability. Business Connections at VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Services to Fit You:

- Work-Based Learning Assessment
- Employment Discovery
- Customized Employment
- Supported Employment
- Career Search Strategies
- School to Work Transition
- Career Advancement & Transition
- Work Incentives Counselling
- On-the-job Training
- Long-term Support Services
- Post-employment Support

Business Connections of VCU can help you conduct a career search, negotiate employment, and get the support you need to obtain and retain employment. We partner with the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and other referral sources, to help you find the resources you need to become self-sufficient.

Referral Form to be completed by DARS & DBVI: https://vcurrtc.org/businessconnections/