



INFORMATION SERIES

Transition Services from School to Work

STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES

Advocacy & Legal

- **Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights (RICHR)**
The Commission enforces Rhode Island antidiscrimination laws in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations, credit and delivery of services. Through impartial investigation, formal and informal resolution efforts, predetermination conferences and administrative hearings, the Commission seeks to ensure due process for both complainants (charging parties) and respondents, to provide redress for victims of discrimination, and to properly dismiss cases against businesses and individual respondents when charges of discrimination lack evidentiary support. Website: www.richr.ri.gov
- **Rhode Island Disability Law Center (RIDLC)**
RIDLC provides free legal assistance to persons with disabilities. Services include individual representation to protect rights or to secure benefits and services; self-help information; educational programs; and administrative and legislative advocacy. The agency administers eight federally funded advocacy programs, each of which has its own eligibility criteria. Website: www.ridlc.org

Agencies & Organizations

- **Governor's Commission on Disabilities (GCOD)**
The Governor's Commission on Disabilities is responsible for ensuring state agencies comply with the state/federal disability rights laws. It is willing to be a mediator in solving disability discrimination complaints and to explore options for resolving the complaint. Website: www.gcd.ri.gov

- Ocean State Center for Independent Living (OSCIL)**
 OSCIL provides peer support and counseling services, advocacy, skills training, information and referral to disabled individuals. Citizenship training for the Deaf and/or non-verbal. Smoke detector Program, Literacy Education. Website: www.oscil.org
- Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities**
 The Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities, founded at Rhode Island College in 1993, is a University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, & Service. Website: www.ric.edu/sherlockcenter
- Perspectives Corporation**
 Perspectives Corporation is a multifaceted, dynamic agency that has been providing support to people with disabilities since 1977. While the main office is located in North Kingstown, they support adults and children throughout the state of Rhode Island. Perspectives offers a Home-Based Therapeutic Service program for qualifying children under the age of 21 who would benefit from our Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing specialty. In addition, the agency offers transitional school supports, adult residential, and adult day support services. Website: www.perspectivescorporation.com
- Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH)**
 RICDHH provides innovative leadership in public policy, advocacy, service delivery and accessibility throughout the Ocean State, RICDHH ensures opportunities for every deaf and hard of hearing person to become an empowered and contributing citizen. Website: www.cdhh.ri.gov
- Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH)**
 BHDDH is committed to assuring access to quality services and supports for Rhode Islanders with developmental disabilities, mental health and substance abuse issues, and chronic long term medical and psychiatric conditions. Our mission includes addressing the stigma attached to these disabilities as well as planning for the development of new services and prevention activities. Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov
- Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE)**
 RIDE and the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education aim to lead and support schools and communities in ensuring that all students achieve at the high levels needed to lead fulfilling and productive lives, to succeed in academic and employment settings, and to contribute to society. Website: www.ride.ri.gov
- Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training (RIDLT)**
 RIDLT provides workforce development, workforce security and workforce protection to the state's workers, employers and citizens. Through federal and state funding, it offers employment services, educational services and economic opportunity to both individuals and employers. DLT also protects the workforce by enforcing labor laws, prevailing wage rates and workplace health and safety standards. And, the department provides temporary income support to unemployed and temporarily disabled workers. Website: www.dlt.ri.gov

- **Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN)**
RIPIN assists individuals, parents, families and children to achieve their goals for health, educational, and socio-economic well being by providing information, education, training, support and advocacy for person/family centered care and systems change.
Website: www.ripin.org
 - **Rhode Island School for the Deaf (RISD)**
RISD provides a variety of professional services that enhance the fine educational program. The special services staff work with the teachers to help assess the needs of the students and implement the appropriate programs. Website: www.rideaf.net
 - **TechACCESS of Rhode Island**
TechACCESS is the central information, resource, and demonstration site for the Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP), the Rhode Island Tech Act grant.
Website: www.techaccess-ri.org
 - **Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)**
ORS provide statewide vocational rehabilitation program to assist people with disabilities to choose, prepare for, obtain and maintain employment.
Website: www.ors.ri.gov/Deaf.html
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Educational

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- **Rhode Island School for the Deaf (RISD)**
RISD provides a variety of professional services that enhance the fine educational program. The special services staff work with the teachers to help assess the needs of the students and implement the appropriate programs. Website: www.rideaf.net
- **Rhode Island Technical Assistance Project (RITAP)**
RITAP is a statewide resource center for technical assistance and support and professional development and training. The resources of RITAP are organized to assist Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE), state and local educational agencies, institutions of higher learning and families in the delivery of quality education and support for diverse learners including, English Language Learners, students in poverty experiencing academic challenges, students who are homeless, students with particular health protection needs and students with disabilities.
Website: www.ritap.org

Rhode Island Transition Centers:

1. **East Bay**, Carolyn Aspinwall, Coordinator
317 Market Street, Warren, RI 02885
Phone: (401) 245-2045 x303 | Carolyn.aspinwall@ebecri.org
 2. **Northern RI**, Cindy VanAvery, Coordinator
25 Esten Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860
Phone: (401) 721-0709 x102
 3. **Southern RI**
859 Nooseneck Hill Rd, W. Greenwich, RI 02817
Phone: (401) 269-1107 | jwalejko@nric-ri.org
 4. **Providence**
434 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908
Phone: (401) 456-9230
Website: www.providencetransition.wikispaces.com
 5. **West Bay**, Therese Curran, Coordinator
144 Bignall Street, Warwick RI 02888
Phone: (401) 941-8353 x124 | curranwbc@aol.com
Website: www.westbayregionaltransition.wikispaces.com
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Employment

- **Disability Employment Initiative (DEI)**
DEI's mission is to improve effective and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the workforce system. Website: www.networkri.org/DEI.htm
- **Goodwill Industries of Rhode Island**
The Goodwill Industries of Rhode Island provides the following Deaf Vocational Programs/Services: Vocational Evaluation, training, referral to training, job search assistance, job coaching/interpreting and work related support services.
Website: www.goodwillri.org
- **NetWORKri**
The *ne*WORKri center offers free job matching services, re-employment workshops, skills assessments and career counseling. Website: www.networkri.org
- **Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training (RIDLT)**
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offers employment services, educational services and economic opportunity to both individuals and employers. DLT also protects the workforce by enforcing labor laws, prevailing wage rates and workplace health and safety standards. And, the department provides temporary income support to unemployed and temporarily disabled workers. Website: www.dlt.ri.gov

- **Rhode Island YouthWORKS411**

YouthWORKS411 is representing a unified approach to assessing, serving and educating all youth ages 14-24 in the most efficient and effective way.

Website: www.dlt.ri.gov/youthworks411

- **Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)**

ORS provide statewide vocational rehabilitation program to assist people with disabilities to choose, prepare for, obtain and maintain employment.

Website: www.ors.ri.gov/Deaf.html

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