

2950 – DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES (DOL)

POLICY STATEMENT	The Division of Rehabilitation Services offers a full range of services to meet the needs of Georgians with physical, mental and emotional disabilities. Employees include physicians, nurses, counselors, evaluators, adjudicators, instructors and health service technicians who deliver services statewide.
BASIC CONSIDERATIONS	
Competitive Employment	<p>Georgians with disabilities are returned to employment through the services offered by rehabilitation counselors located in 53 offices statewide. The services, which are free to eligible persons, include vocational, psychological and medical evaluations, guidance, vocational counseling and job placement.</p> <p>State-operated rehabilitation centers in Augusta, Cave Springs, Atlanta, Rome and Milledgeville provide various combinations of services including vocational evaluations, adjustment services, psychological testing, and medical consultations, as well as sheltered employment at some locations.</p>
Sheltered Employment	<p>The Division operates and contracts with community-based facilities for sheltered employment programs for persons who are severely disabled and currently unable to work in the competitive labor market.</p> <p>Georgia Industries for the Blind provide training and employment in manufacturing and packaging for persons who are blind or have other visual impairments. Plants located in Bainbridge, Griffin, and Atlanta employ disabled workers. In addition, persons who are blind work in the Business Enterprise Program, operating vending facilities throughout the state.</p>
Independent Living	Field-based independent living programs, currently in Atlanta, Columbus, Albany, Savannah, Gainesville and Macon, teach persons with disabilities the skills they need to become more self-sufficient in the community. Services include technical assistance, information and referral.

**BASIC
CONSIDERATIONS
(cont.)****Disability
Adjudication**

Georgians with physical disabilities file claims for Social Security disability and receive eligibility decisions from the department's Disability Adjudication Section.

**Roosevelt
Warm Springs
Institute for
Rehabilitation**

The institute provides extensive residential and outpatient services for persons with physical and mental disabilities. Services include medical and vocational rehabilitation, independent living skills training, education and research.

**Specialized
Services**

In 1988, the division opened the Georgia Sensory Rehabilitation Center in College Park offering specialized rehabilitation, job training and job placement for persons with sensory disabilities. Through a cooperative agreement with the Georgia Head Injury Foundation, Inc., the Traumatic Brain Injury Center serves Georgians from across the state. The Georgia Interpreting Services Network provides sign language interpreters.