Rehabilitation
Research &
Training
Center for
Evidence-based
Practice in
Vocational
Rehabilitation

What does this stand for?
RRTC - EBP VR
Participation
Contact Us Toll Free: 1-855-820-3929
Online: www.research2VRpractice.org
What does the RRTC-EBP-VR do?

The Rehabilitation Research & Training Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Vocational Rehabilitation (RRTC-EBP-VR) will conduct evidence-based research and provide practitioners with knowledge and tools for evidence-based vocational rehabilitation practices that will improve employment rates, and quality of employment, for people with disabilities.
How does the RRTC-EBP-VR function?

Through collaboration with key stakeholders within Vocational Rehabilitation leadership and practitioners, community partners, rehabilitation educators and researchers, families and individuals with disabilities, this RRTC will engage in a comprehensive, participatory action research process to identify, study, and exchange essential elements that contribute to successful outcomes.
Phase 1

The research initiative currently underway focuses on increasing knowledge of the variations among state VR agencies in achieving quality employment outcomes. It examines how impairments, personal factors, environmental variables, and types of VR services provided are related to both employment outcomes, and the quality of employment outcomes.

In addition, it identifies state VR agencies most respected for their innovation and best management practices to improve employment outcomes of subpopulations with the lowest employment.
Future research initiatives will address the need to develop new knowledge regarding best practices models of effective RR service delivery. Studies will be designed to address the questions of

“What are the best models of effective practice, policy and procedures among state VR agencies that result in the effective delivery of services to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve employment outcomes?” and

“What are the specific best practices approaches that appear to be evidence-based and transportable to other state VR agencies?”
Phase 3

The final phase of this RRTC’s research will validate the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) specifically as a model for VR counselors to enhance the effectiveness of their service delivery practice. As part of this phase, we will develop brief but reliable and valid screening instruments that counselors can use to quickly assess their customers functioning, activity levels, personal strengths, and facilitators and barriers in the environment. This will help them to better conceptualize their assessment, planning, and service needs for employment success and full integration of persons with disabilities into society.
What is the focus of the RRTC-EBP-VR?

Our focus is on Research and Knowledge Translation, which can be explained as the multidimensional, active process of ensuring that new knowledge gained through the course of research ultimately improves the lives of people with disabilities, and furthers their participation in society (NIDRR, 2005).
What is the desired impact of the RRTC-EBP-VR?

- Improve employment and quality of employment outcomes for people with disabilities who receive services from state Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies.
- Communicate important research findings related to high performing state VR programs.
- Showcase effective Vocational Rehabilitation Service Delivery.
- Enhance and influence policy development to improve outcomes in the Vocational Rehabilitation System.
- Demonstrate effective tools, strategies, and relationships for sharing key information.
Wisconsin is home to the RRTC-EBP-VR, which is jointly based at:

The University of Wisconsin – Madison

The University of Wisconsin – Stout
The **RRTC-EBP-VR** is a national research collaborative partnered by the following key institutions and organizations:

- **The University of Wisconsin – Madison**
  Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education

- **The University of Wisconsin – Stout**
  Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute (SVRI)

- **The University of Texas – El Paso**

- **Southern University at Baton Rouge**

- **Michigan State University**

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How is this RRTC funded?

Funding for the Rehabilitation Research & Training Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Vocational Rehabilitation is provided by the:

The RRTC is established under a grant from the Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).
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