

State Rehabilitation Council (SRC)

Quarterly Meeting: July 23, 2025, 1-4 PM



Roll Call/Approval of Minutes/Agenda

Juliet Hardeman, SRC Chair





Chair Update

New SRC Liaisons

- Chris Wells & Arlene Fowler
Arlene.Fowler@gvs.ga.gov

NCSRC National Call - August 27 @ 2 pm

NCSRC Fall Conference – November 1-2 in
San Diego, CA

GVRA Transition Liaison

Rebecca Williamson, Transition Manager



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

July 23, 2025

Quarterly State Rehabilitation Council Meeting

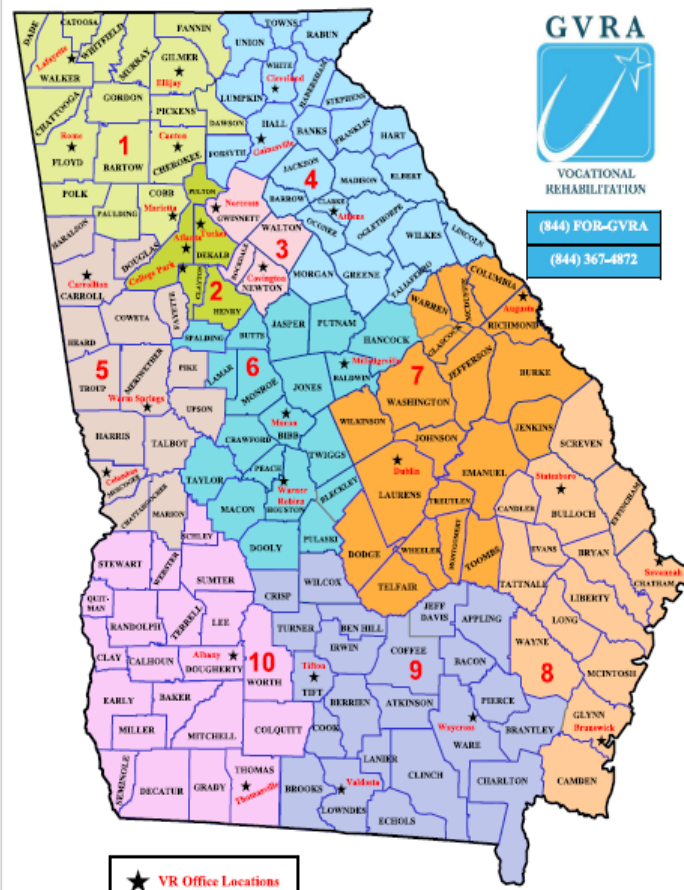
Rebecca Williamson, Transition Manager

Rebecca.Williamson@gvs.ga.gov



GVRA Transition Liaisons

District	Office Location	Name	Email
D1	Marietta	Kimberly Lewis	kimberly.lewis@gvs.ga.gov
D1	Rome	Rena Roper	rena.roper@gvs.ga.gov
D2	College Park	Sharese Cross	sharese.cross@gvs.ga.gov
D2	Tucker	Huda Hassan	huda.hassan@gvs.ga.gov
D3	Norcross	Mark Tappin	mark.tappin@gvs.ga.gov
D3	Norcross	Sarina Forest	sarina.forest@gvs.ga.gov
D4	Gainesville	Andre' Cheek-Castleberry	andre.cheek@gvs.ga.gov
D5	Columbus	Denise Fox	denise.fox@gvs.ga.gov
D5	Warm Springs	Lesley Goodwin	lesley.goodwin@gvs.ga.gov
D6	Warner Robins	Natalie Oldaker	natalie.oldaker@gvs.ga.gov
D7	Augusta	Cori Morgan	corina.morgan@gvs.ga.gov
D8	Savannah	Heather Wolff	heather.wolff@gvs.ga.gov
D9	Waycross	Kristie Jarrard	kristie.jarrard@gvs.ga.gov
D10	Thomasville	Robin Gaston	robin.gaston@gvs.ga.gov



GVRA Transition Liaisons

Primary Roles and Responsibilities

- Facilitating the continuous improvement of collaborative relationships between the Local Education Agencies (LEA) and VR staff
- Pre-ETS Annual Planning and Provider selections with the LEA and VR staff
- Pre-ETS and SWD Data Monitoring by LEA and HS
- Process Improvement for GVRA document and data sharing with LEA



GVRA Transition Liaison Activities

Example of Recent Activities:

- VR District Lead for Pathful online Career Exploration Platform
- VR District Lead for obtaining and monitoring HS completion documentation from the LEAs
- Presentation to Pathways to Partnership Grant on Family Learning Session (Virtual, May 29th)
- Representation of GVRA at GaDOE Federal Programs Conference (Duluth, June 24th)
- Presentation to new Career and Technical Instruction (CTI) Coordinators (Athens, July 18th)





SRC Current Committee Chairs

Membership – Lisa Leiter

Public Outreach - Katie Hearn

Policy – Michele Mason

Parliamentarian - Jennifer Page

SRC Committee Reports

Membership – Lisa Leiter



SRC Committee Reports

Policy – Michele Mason



SRC Committee Reports

Public Outreach – Katie Hearn



GVRA Executive Update

Executive Director, Chris Wells



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Wednesday, July 24, 2025

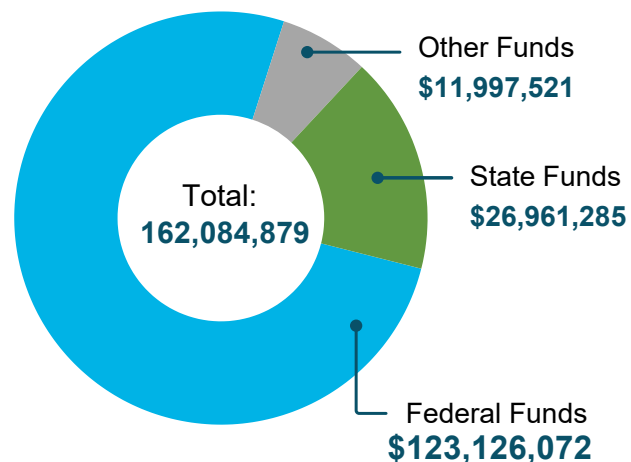
Vocational Rehabilitation Updates

Chris Wells, Executive Director

Chris.Wells@gvs.ga.gov



fiscal year 2024 funding



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

5 budgeted programs

- Business Enterprise Program (BEP)
- Disability Adjudication Services (DAS)
- Georgia Industries for the Blind (GIB)
- Departmental Administration
- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)



40,000+
Individuals Served



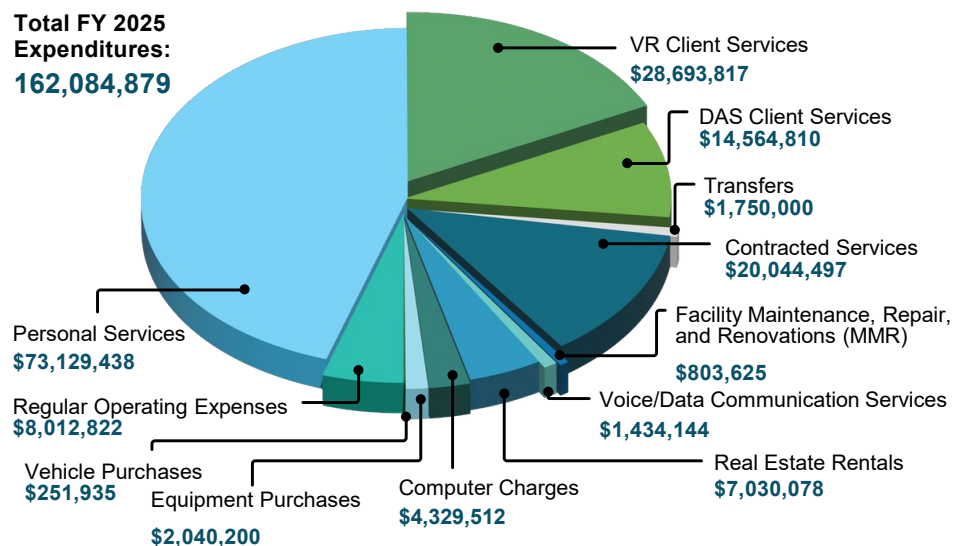
20,000+
Students Served



90,000+
Claims Adjudicated Annually

fy 2024 expenditures

Total FY 2025 Expenditures:
162,084,879



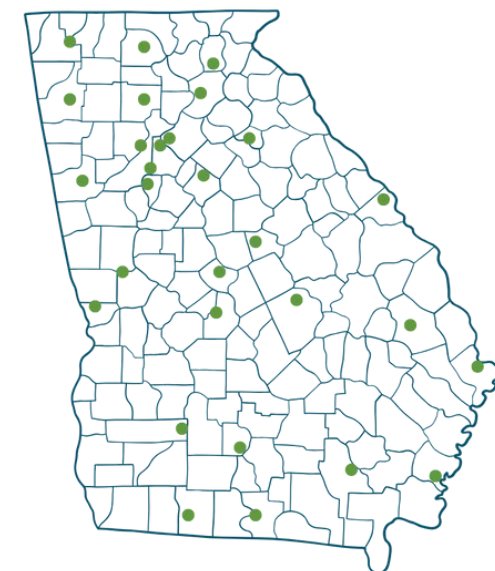
900+
Employees Statewide



2
Residential Postsecondary Campuses



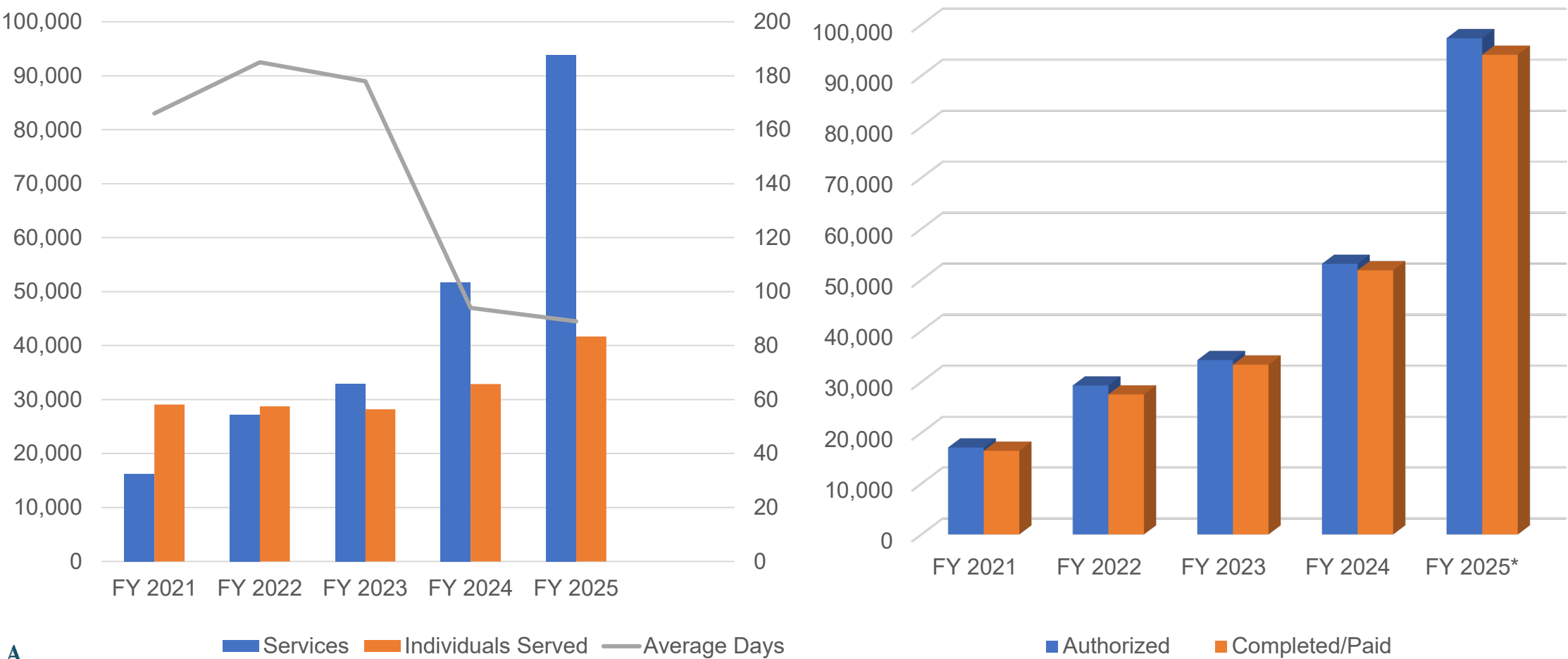
1
Manufacturing Plant



Over 26 field offices and facilities

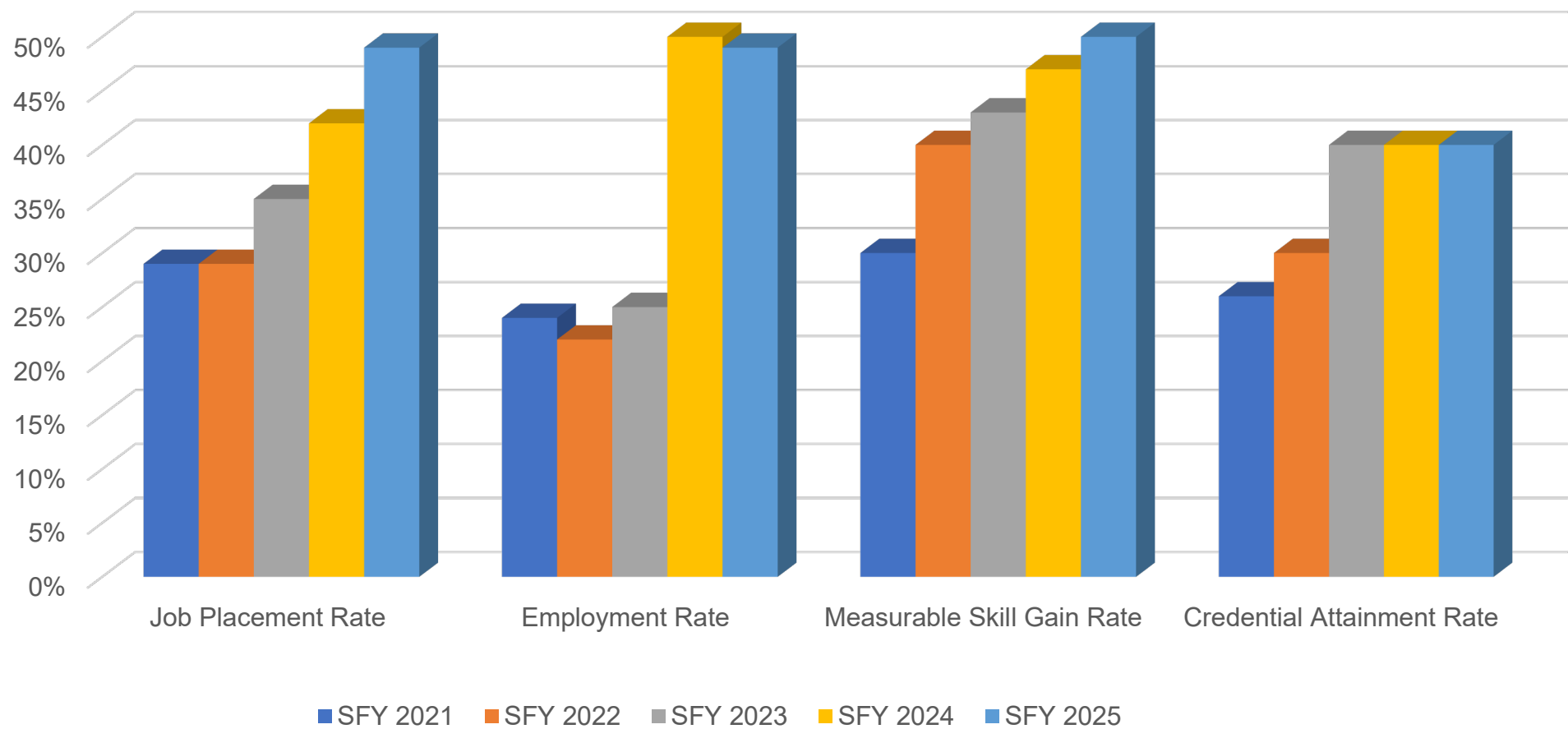
Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Vocational Rehabilitation Updates



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

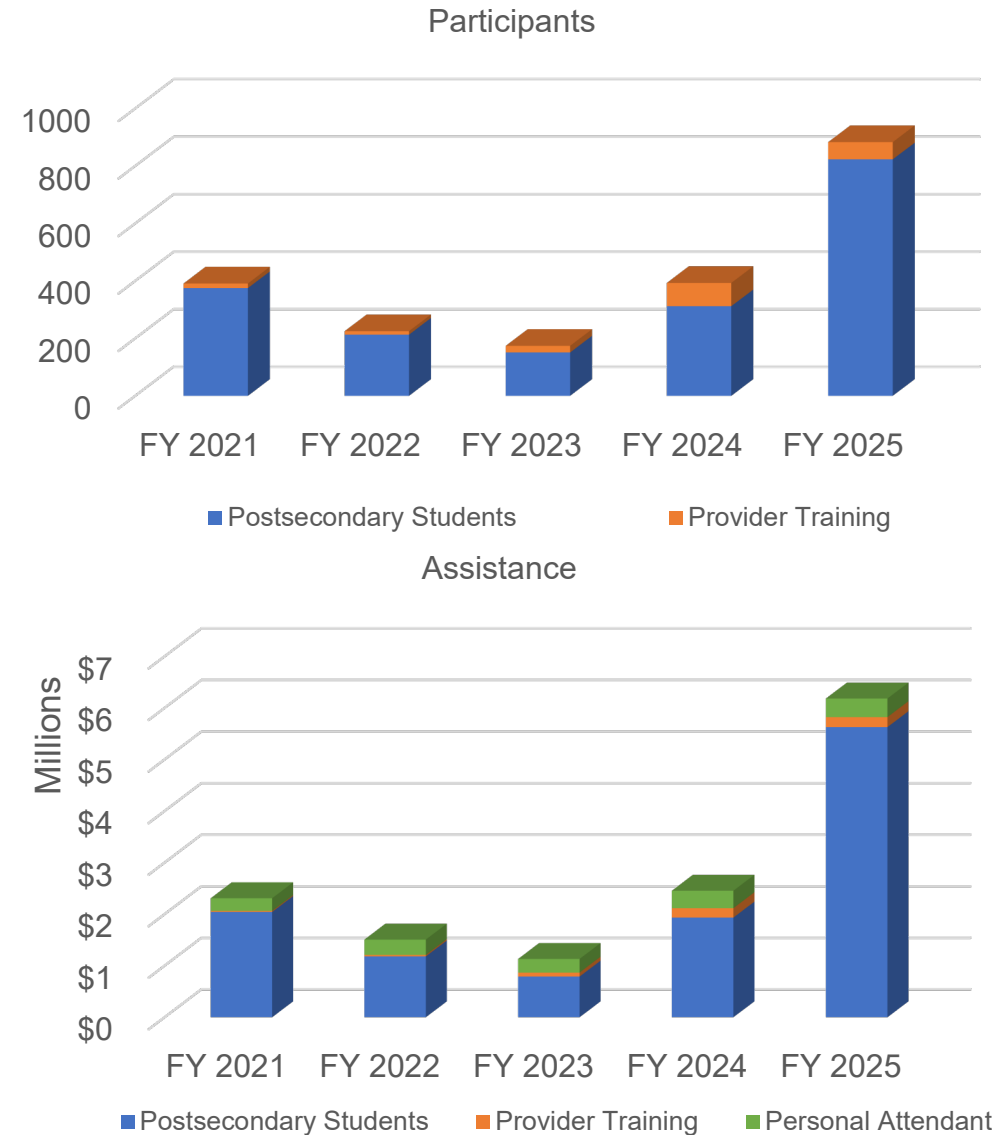
Vocational Rehabilitation Updates



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Vocational Rehabilitation Updates

- **Bud McCall Grant** - Effective January 2024, GVRA began offering the Bud McCall grant to students with disabilities seeking post-secondary opportunities and other VR services.
- Individuals with permanent disabilities that result in substantial impediment to employment may be eligible for the grant following application and acceptance as a GVRA client for VR services.
- Undergraduate students who meet the requirements are eligible for the grant for up to five years.
- The annual grant totals up to \$17,725 annually to cover tuition, books, and maintenance costs.



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Residential Pathways



Pathways	Aug 2023	Jan 2024	Aug 2024	Jan 2025	Aug 2025
CVS/Retail	7	14	17	22	21
Logistics	3	12	13	10	13
Hospitality	5	12	17	23	28
Light Electrical/Carpentry	1	7	20	18	11
Auto-Detailing		9	12	9	15
Certified Nursing Assistant		5	6	5	7
Landscape Maintenance				7	9
Heavy Equipment			9	7	12
Total Enrollment	16	59	92	100	115
Applications	21	80	290	156	350*
Credentials/Certifications	35	147	320	365	
Measurable Skill Gains	35	135	378	438	
Graduation Rate	94%	97%	96%	88%	

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Vendor	Count of Services		Distinct Count of Services		Payment Amount		Distinct Count of Participants	
	SFY 2024	SFY 2025	SFY 2024	SFY 2025	SFY 2024	SFY 2025	SFY 2024	SFY 2025
Grand Total	31,014	44,520	54	23	\$8,987,881	\$11,847,905	8,099	8,081
ACE DRIVING SCHOOL, LLC	301	219	2	2	\$77,865	\$66,250	172	98
B SMITH & ASSOCIATES LLC	3,505	3,536	24	10	\$1,820,110	\$1,021,125	585	473
BLAZESPORTS AMERICA INC		4		1		\$4,900		3
BOBBY DODD INSTITUTE, INC	80	709	5	6	\$42,950	\$170,250	65	198
BRIDGES FROM SCHOOL TO WORK		12		1		\$5,625		12
CREATIVE ENTERPRISES, INC.	65		2		\$22,200		35	
CROSS PLAINS COMMUNITY PARTNER, INC.	542	20	7	2	\$122,500	\$4,000	124	11
DYNAMIC LEARNING CENTERS	43	251	2	4	\$11,150	\$78,725	27	52
EASTER SEALS EAST GEORGIA, INC.	345	178	4	3	\$78,665	\$49,375	129	71
EASTER SEALS MIDDLE GEORGIA, INC	134	79	5	3	\$89,555	\$82,300	43	17
EASTER SEALS SOUTHERN GEORGIA	1,812	2,751	18	5	\$413,380	\$809,825	352	405
EASTER SEALS WEST GEORGIA, Inc		47		1		\$8,125		25
EmployAbility	135	68	9	11	\$29,850	\$25,200	36	25
FAMILY RESTORATION NETWORK	566	320	12	7	\$126,800	\$117,400	167	151
GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES INC	122	73	5	3	\$14,492	\$78,525	47	26
GEORGIA CAREER AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION INC (CTI)	2,897	13,033	14	15	\$1,299,250	\$3,414,500	1,398	2,545
GEORGIA CENTER OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING	74	120	7	3	\$37,700	\$160,630	21	30
GEORGIA COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT (High School High Tech)	10,822	8,195	22	11	\$2,044,055	\$1,548,750	3,486	2,879
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF THE SOUTHERN RIVERS	597	398	6	4	\$207,678	\$141,700	198	165
GOODWILL OF NORTH GEORGIA, INC.	728	849	6	5	\$150,786	\$235,050	296	287
GRIFFIN AREA RESOURCE CENTER, INC.	35	54	4	4	\$11,375	\$9,250	14	19
Hi-Hope Service Center	9		1		\$3,000		9	
HUNTER RODGERS CORPORATION	524	697	4	5	\$119,990	\$227,075	112	90
IEDUVATE ME LEARNING LLC		28		2		\$6,250		14
Joshua Tree Service Group, Inc	1,386	3,263	8	4	\$291,545	\$828,000	411	553
NOBIS WORKS INC	2,251	777	9	5	\$605,470	\$242,575	800	262
Stinson & Associates, Inc.	678	710	14	8	\$206,185	\$259,450	142	127
TEEM ECONOMIC RESEARCH AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	84	592	7	8	\$49,780	\$274,850	5	67
THE RINGER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE INC	175	1,453	6	10	\$202,840	\$430,175	79	246
TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH	71		3		\$22,700		23	
Tree of Life, Inc.	247	471	6	10	\$92,800	\$102,825	124	115
TURNING POINT INC	8	279	1	5	\$14,000	\$62,050	8	89
WAVES AUTISM CENTER LLC	232	558	10	6	\$94,518	\$278,950	97	104
WHITE COLUMNS REHABILITATION SERVICES LLC	1,671	1,318	13	7	\$371,893	\$420,300	520	216
WOW IN-SYNC, INC.	875	3,458	7	7	\$312,800	\$683,900	229	261



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Vocational Rehabilitation Updates

“Based on the information you provided, RSA has determined that GVRA has met the criteria for establishing that the corrective actions have been effective for all the findings. As this is the case, the CAP has been successfully completed, and no further action by GVRA is necessary. ”

DOE Timeliness

- **FY 2024 – 94%**
- **FY 2025 – 91%**

IPE Timeliness

- **FY 2024 – 92%**
- **FY 2025 – 93%**

PRE – ETS (15%)

- **FY 2022 - \$10.4M**
- **FY 2023 - \$11.1M**
- **FY 2024 - \$13.4M**



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Vocational Rehabilitation Updates

Chris Wells, Executive Director

Chris.Wells@gvs.ga.gov



New/Old Business

Juliet Hardeman, SRC Chair



Public Hearing

Celeste Harris, Policy & Compliance Manager

Stacy Linowski, Policy Appeals Advisor



Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

July 23, 2025

Quarterly State Rehabilitation Council Meeting

Celeste Harris, Policy & Compliance Manager

Celeste.Harris@gvs.ga.gov

Stacy Linowski, Policy Appeals Advisor

Stacy.Linowski@gvs.ga.gov



Public Notice of: Proposed Revisions to the GVRA Client Services Policy Manual (“CSPM”) available for review at the link below.

<https://gvs.georgia.gov/proposed-revisions-gvra-client-se>

Please submit public comments by August 23, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. to email below:

programsupportpolicy@gvs.ga.gov

Adjournment

Juliet Hardeman, SRC Chair





Upcoming Events

August 13, 2025 - GVS Board Meeting at RWS
(tours start at 10am, meeting convenes at 1pm)

October 3, 2025 - GVRA Day at the Fair in Perry, GA

Next SRC Meeting:

October 22, 2025 (in person with virtual option -
location TBD)