

N E X T G E N C A R E E R S

WHAT'S
NEXT?



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission



WHO WE ARE

TOGETHER WITH STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS, AND ALLIES, MRC COLLABORATES, PROBLEM SOLVES, AND INNOVATES TO BRING ABOUT A BETTER MASSACHUSETTS FOR EVERYONE— ONE THAT IS TRULY EQUITABLE, ACCESSIBLE, AND INCLUSIVE

MRC provides services that break down barriers and empower people with disabilities to live life on their own terms. Our programs focus on vocational rehabilitation, community living, and disability determination for federal benefit programs. We are change agents and community builders. And we put the people we serve at the heart of everything we do.

NEXTGEN CAREERS

WHAT'S NEXT?

We're in the business of possibility at the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC), and NextGen Careers is a new initiative to help young adults (ages 18-30) to explore the world of work.

NextGen-ers like you will learn to advocate for yourselves, gain self-confidence, and become self-sufficient on your career path.

Whether you're interested in a certificate program, on-the-job training, apprenticeship, or an internship in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM), NextGen will pair you with a team of dedicated experts in counseling, benefits, and peer support that will be behind you every step of the way.

Pursue your career goals on your terms. The next step is yours!

New Skills

At the initiative's core are the skills that will help you grow your career and confidence overall. The program isn't just focused on employment— NextGen-ers build confidence themselves and being able to communicate their needs.



SELF-CAPACITY you'll gain confidence in your ability to perform a job



SELF-ADVOCACY you'll have the ability to direct your own life



SELF-REALIZATION you'll understand your strengths and limitations



SELF-SUFFICIENCY you'll be able to do your work and explore independence



Where We Work

SOUTH REGION

1. Boston 2. Roxbury 3. Braintree

NORTH REGION

4. Lawrence 5. Lowell

WEST REGION

6. Springfield 7. Worcester

The NextGen Career program meets you where you live. As an agency, MRC is focused on breaking down traditional barriers to employment. Our team will be your guide to building confidence, experience, and knowledge for your career journey.

THE PROCESS

1

LEARN ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Complete the inquiry form online at mass.gov/nextgencareers or contact a NextGen staff directly at nextgencareers@mass.gov to see if the program is the right fit for you.

2

APPLY TO NEXTGEN CAREERS

Visit mass.gov/mrcconnect and apply to NextGen through MRC Connect, the agency's online application. If you need assistance a NextGen team member will be available to guide you through the process.

3

ACCEPTANCE AND NEXT STEPS

Once you are determined eligible, MRC will assemble your team of supporters that will partner with you to decide how to begin your job journey!

**WHATEVER YOUR INTEREST AND YOUR PATH
NEXTGEN CAREERS HAS YOU COVERED!**



OUR TEAM

The NextGen Career team focuses on partnering with you. We are made up of mentors, counselors, benefits advisors, and employment specialists to help you find your best career path. As a team, we help job seekers build their confidence and expertise in whichever field they want to pursue.

CAREER COUNSELOR:

Helps you explore employment options and drive your career plans.

EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS SPECIALIST:

This is your job go-to person. They will connect you to employers in diverse STEM industries and help you find exciting places to work!

PEER MENTOR:

An advisor with lived experience and insight to provide you support in your career goals.

BENEFITS COUNSELOR:

Provides you with information about social security and other public benefits that are available to you and support you in your job journey.

“Working with a peer mentor allows me to control my career goals. They listen and help guide me on my path.”

Destiny Lomonte
MRC Disability Inclusion Leader

“As a NextGen Career Counselor, I know it takes a team effort to achieve anything! Here at NextGen, our team puts the young adult at the center of the team and they lead the efforts to achieve their career goals.”

Kiah Nuahn
Career Counselor





THE RIGHT FIT FOR YOU

Don't feel like NextGen is the right fit for you? We have a number of programs to support your goals, including Vocational Rehabilitation (VR).

VR prepares you to take on the modern workplace. Together with public colleges and universities, professional training programs, and employers statewide, we partner with people with disabilities to expand what's possible in your career and work life.

VR counselors work to offer you counseling and guidance, job-driven training and skills training, aptitude testing, job placement assistance, college or vocational training, assistive technology, financial wellness, employer consultation, and so much more.

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**NEXT
STEP IS
YOURS**



Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

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