

Training Grant Frequently Asked Questions DVR Consumers

June 2015

- 1. What is the DVR Training Grant?**

The DVR training grant may be paid to eligible DVR consumers who have employment training goals that require going to college, a university, technical college or vocational training program.
- 2. How much money will I get if I get a training grant?**

The amount of your training grant will depend on how much financial aid you get from your school and your unmet need. The training grant amount is **up to \$5,000 per academic year for a full-time student.**
- 3. What if I am a part-time student?**

Full-time attendance is encouraged but if you are an eligible part-time student, you may get **up to \$160 per credit.**
- 4. What do I have to do to get a DVR training grant?**

Follow the steps on your *Responsibility Checklist for DVR Consumers Applying for a DVR Training Grant*. You are responsible for making sure that all of the steps are completed.
- 5. How will I know if I will get a DVR training grant?**

Talk to your DVR counselor. He/she will use your financial aid information from your school to calculate the amount of your training grant.
- 6. How do I apply for financial aid?**

You can talk to your high school counselor or contact the financial aid office of the college or university you plan to attend for information on applying for financial aid. You can also complete a free application for federal financial aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.
- 7. When should I apply for financial aid?**

If you want to be considered for a DVR training grant, you should apply for financial aid as soon as possible after January 1. It is not necessary to have completed your taxes to complete a FAFSA. Applying later may cause delays that could negatively affect your eligibility for a DVR training grant.
- 8. What will happen if I don't apply for financial aid?**

DVR cannot consider you for a DVR training grant if you haven't applied for financial aid. Our Federal Regulations require that students make a maximum effort to obtain all comparable benefits and financial aids is considered a comparable benefit.

9. Will the DVR training grant affect my student loans?

If you choose to take student loans, your DVR training grant may be reduced to make sure that you do not get an over-award.

10. What will happen if I get an over-award?

If you get an over-award, you will have to pay back the extra money you received, even if you have already spent it.

11. What will happen if I don't agree to let DVR and my school share information about my financial aid, records and credits?

DVR cannot consider you for a DVR training grant if you do not agree to let DVR and your school share information about your financial aid and training grant eligibility. .

12. How will I get the money-In-State Public or Accredited Private (WAICU) School?

If you are eligible for a training grant and are attending an in-state public school or an accredited private school, DVR will send your school a check. The full amount of your training grant will be divided into equal payments by academic year terms (semesters, quarters etc.). For example, if your school's academic year is divided into two semesters, your DVR training grant will be divided into two equal payments, paid after the census date or confirmation date designated by your school (usually 10-15 days into the term.) Before your second term can be paid, either the school or you must provide a copy of your grade report for the previous semester/quarter to DVR.

To get a listing of in state accredited private schools visit: <http://www.waicu.org/>

13. How will I get the money-Out of State or Non-Accredited Private School?

If you are eligible for a training grant and are attending an out of state or non-accredited private school, DVR will send your school a purchase order. The school will send DVR an invoice to get payment and your school will credit your student account. The full amount of your training grant will be divided into equal payments by terms (academic year semesters or quarters.) For example, if your school's academic year is divided into two semesters, your DVR training grant will be divided into two equal payments, paid to you at the beginning of each semester.

Before you can get your training grant check for the second semester/quarter, you must provide documentation that you used the training grant to pay for your training and also give your DVR counselor a copy of your grade report for the previous semester/quarter.

14. How will I pay for my books and supplies?

You should not count on getting your training grant payment at the very start of the term. If DVR is paying your school directly or if DVR is providing you with a direct payment, it is unknown if those funds will be available prior to the need to get your books. Students should plan for and have funds available to pay for books. If DVR would provide funds in excess of the training grant, DVR would report the payment to your school and you as the student would have to pay the funds back to the school as an over award. Each school has a different policy with regard to the purchase of books and use of financial aid for this purpose. It is the student's responsibility to get information from financial aid about how best to purchase books. DVR may be able to make an exception and use the exception

process for extraordinary circumstances although these situations would be extremely rare. This policy is the same for students who receive SSI/SSDI.

15. What will happen if I don't finish my training program in the time recommended by the school?

You are encouraged to attend full time and complete the course of studies within the time specified by the curriculum. If you are approved for extended attendance, DVR will provide payment for up to one extra semester or quarter for every year required by the curriculum. (Maximum - 1 extra semester/2 extra quarters for a vocational diploma; 2 extra semesters/3 extra quarters for an associate degree; 4 extra semesters/6 extra quarters for a bachelor's degree; 2 extra semesters/3 extra quarters for an advanced degree; etc.).

16. What will happen if I have to drop out of my training for disability reasons?

If there is a change in your life that makes it impossible for you to continue in your training program, talk to your DVR counselor immediately. He/she can work with you to make changes to your employment plan to help you achieve your employment goal.

17. What should I do if I think I have a special circumstance related to my disability that affects my training program?

If you think that there is a disability-related circumstance that will affect your training program, including the number of credits in which you are registered, talk to your DVR counselor immediately.

18. What documentation do I need to provide to DVR?

If you have received funds from DVR to attend a school program you will need to work with your DVR Counselor to make sure **grades are provided each term** and that you have also shared a current course plan, which outlines a proposed schedule and timeline of necessary courses to complete your program. This course plan should identify any required (pre-requisite) classes and an anticipated completion or graduation date. Please review this with your DVR Counselor to make sure you stay on track and to work out any issues that come up regarding your progress. DVR may be able to help you resolve issues early.