# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manual C-800: Neurodevelopmental and Psychological Services

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## Introduction

Within the scope of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), services that support individuals with neurodevelopmental or psychological disorders may be available to eligible VR customers.

Neurodevelopmental disorders are a group of conditions with onset in the developmental period, typically early in development. The range of developmental deficits varies from very specific limitations of learning or control of executive functions to global impairments of social skills or intelligence. Neurodevelopmental disorders frequently co-occur with each other. For example, individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) often have an intellectual disability, and many children with attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) have a learning disability, as stated by the DSM-5.

A psychological disorder refers to a spectrum of mental disorders or conditions that influence our emotions, cognitions, and/or behaviors. Psychological disabilities may include depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder.

Neurodevelopmental and psychological services may be available through VR only when:

* comparable benefits or supports are not available; and
* the service is necessary for the customer to reach his or her identified individualized plan for employment (IPE) goals.

For more information about requirements for using comparable benefits, refer to [D-200: Purchasing Goods and Services, D-203-3: Use of Comparable Benefits](https://twc.texas.gov/vr-services-manual/vrsm-d-200#d203-3).

For more information about developing the customer's IPE, refer to [B-500: Individualized Plan for Employment](https://twc.texas.gov/vr-services-manual/vrsm-b-500) and Post-Employment.

As part of VR, neurodevelopmental and psychological services are short-term services that focus on helping the customer achieve competitive integrated employment. When long-term treatment and supports are necessary, the customer must plan to access these ongoing supports and services independent of VR. The VR counselor may work with the customer to provide referral and information about available resources to meet these ongoing needs within the scope of counseling and guidance. For more information, refer to [C-100: Counseling and Guidance](https://twc.texas.gov/vr-services-manual/vrsm-c-100).

If a counselor has determined that an exception will facilitate a customer’s progress and there is not an approval exception listed in policy, counselors are encouraged to staff the request through their chain of management to the Deputy Division Director for Field Services for consideration. VRSM clearly states when no exceptions are allowed.

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