

Initial Meeting Questions

These questions can be used by the rehabilitation specialist to ensure that appropriate information is gathered in the initial interview or interviews. The questions posed are general questions to be addressed with applicants. Specific questions of importance based on the disability are posed in the Disability Handbook.

1. Presenting information

- a. Where was the initial interview held and how did the client get there?
- b. Who referred client to VR?
- c. Why was client referred to VR?
- d. What is client's perception of the problem?
- e. How does client perceive VR and VR services?
- f. Is he or she a former client? If so, what were the services and outcome?

2. Medical disabilities and limitations

- a. What are the client's current disabilities?
- b. Is the client currently taking any medication?
- c. Is client currently involved in medical treatment?
- d. Are there any further treatment plans?
- e. Is there a history of other disability or treatment?
- f. Has client adjusted to the disability and treatment?

3. Psychological disabilities and limitations

- a. Is there a history of emotional or behavior problems?
- b. Is a current psychological or psychiatric exam required?
- c. Is testing or evaluation needed but not required?
- d. Is client currently receiving counseling or treatment?
- e. Does client make statements about problem behavior?

4. Vocational Impediment

In the applicant's view:

- a. How does the disability cause a problem in getting a job?
- b. How does the disability cause a problem in keeping a job?
- c. How does the disability cause a problem in preparing for a job?
- d. How does the disability cause a problem in daily activities?

5. Vocational history and interests

- a. What are the client's job motivations, interests, expectations or vocational objectives?
- b. What is client's work history?
- c. If not currently employed, has the client recently looked for work?
- d. What usable work skills does client have?
- e. What are the client's work habits?
- f. How did the client relate to others on previous jobs?
- g. What avocational interests does the client have? Any vocational relevance?
- h. Is there need for vocational evaluation/adjustment/job seeking skills?

6. Education and training

- a. What is client's educational history?
- b. What was outcome of previous training?
- c. Why did interruptions or incompletions occur?
- d. What previous vocational training has client had?
- e. What is client's attitude toward additional training?

7. Family and living situation

- a. Describe the family unit.
- b. How has client's disability affected the family?
- c. How stable is the family situation?
- d. Will the family support the client and a VR plan?
- e. What is the current housing situation?
- f. Is residence likely to change during VR process?

8. Economic

- a. What are the current sources of financial support?
- b. What standard of living expectations do the client and family have?
- c. What special or potential resources does the client have?
- d. Is litigation possible or pending?
- e. Does the applicant receive any benefits that will be effected by working?

9. Independent living

- a. Can client do self care activities by self? With assistance?
- b. Can client do home management activities by self? With assistance?
- c. Can client manage money?
- d. Can client care for children by self? With assistance?
- e. Can client enter and leave essential areas of home by self? Enter and leave a car or bus?
- f. Is transportation available to client?
- g. Is an Independent Living referral needed?

10. Other involved agencies and persons

- a. What agencies and persons are involved with the client?
- b. How should VR be involved with them?

11. Impressions

- a. Specialist impressions, descriptions, observations.
- b. Was a counseling relationship established?

12. To do

- a. What requests for examinations or records will be made?
- b. What other things did the specialist agree to do?
- c. What is client expected to do and when is he or she to do it?
- d. What areas of information or questions should be answered or investigated in subsequent interviews?