

# Work Choice

## Factsheet

Work Choice is a voluntary employment programme that provides support to disabled people facing complex barriers to getting and keeping a job.

You will benefit from Work Choice if you have a disability and wish to have a job where you can:

- develop and improve your job skills;
- have the opportunity to develop and progress through training and support; and
- have the right kind of support and encouragement when you need it.

### Tailoring to your needs

Work Choice will help you if you feel that you need a lot of support before doing a job on your own.

Work Choice is about meeting your needs through a flexible and individually-tailored programme so that you can get and keep a job.

### Am I eligible to join Work Choice?

Work Choice is a voluntary employment programme for disabled people of working age, with the highest support needs and whose disability is defined in the Equality Act 2010.

### Is Work Choice suitable for me ?

Work Choice will help you if:

- you have complex work related issues and support needs arising primarily from your disability;
- you have requirements in work, which cannot be overcome through workplace adjustments required under the Equality Act 2010 or Access to Work support;
- you think you need longer term support in work and/or help finding work; and
- you cannot be helped through other DWP programmes.

### How the programme works

#### Work entry support

At the start of the programme we will work with you to identify what your needs are to prepare you for work. You will have a choice of job seeking activities available to you, including:

- job search advice;
- job application support; and
- tailored vocational guidance.

You will agree a development plan with your Work Choice provider which makes sure you get the necessary training and support before you start work.

Work Choice providers are professional organisations who will give you the support you need to find and keep a job.

## **In Work Support**

Your Work Choice provider has access to a wide variety of vacancies with a range of employers.

When you are ready, your provider will help you find employment and support you in work. They will introduce you to the people in your new work place and will keep in regular contact with you.

Your provider will regularly review your development plan with you and your employer to check you are receiving the support you need, are making progress and developing in your job.

The aim is, with the help of your provider and employer, the support you require in work will reduce over time.

While you are receiving support in work, you will be required to work for at least 16 hours a week

## **How do I join Work Choice?**

Contact your local Jobcentre and ask to be put in touch with a Disability Employment Adviser.

Your adviser will tell you whether you're eligible for the programme and help you decide whether it is right for you, before continuing with the referral process.

## **To find out more**

You can contact Jobcentre Plus by visiting [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk) or you can find our number in your local phone book.