

designs and develops innovative federal projects to train educators to work with a range of handicapping conditions, implements statewide programs based on the least restrictive environment for the handicapped, administers funds, and monitors all programs under Title VI of the Education of the Handicapped Act. Technically, the Division operates data systems on the number of handicapped served, the kind of service provided, and the early identification of the pre-school handicapped. In addition, the Division operates a State referral and information service and collaborates regionally with other states on data systems.

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, established by the General Assembly by Chapter 201, Acts of 1929, administers the Federal Civilian Rehabilitation Act and the funds provided by it, within the State of Maryland. The Division provides vocational rehabilitation and placement services to the physically and mentally handicapped persons. Home teaching services are provided to blind citizens of the State, and a register of the blind is maintained by the division. All claims for disability benefits under Social Security and Supplemental Security Income are adjudicated by the Disability Determination Service with referrals for rehabilitation services as appropriate. Since January 1, 1974, the Division has administered the evaluation program to determine eligibility for the Supplemental Security Income program of the Social Security Administration. Regional offices are located in Hagerstown, Bladensburg, Baltimore, Towson, Salisbury, and Annapolis, with branch offices in nineteen counties. The remaining counties, Queen Anne, Caroline, Somerset, and Worcester, are served by offices in adjacent counties (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 77, secs. 134-141).

Special units are located in the Johns Hopkins Hospital, University of Maryland Hospital, Sinai Hospital, Baltimore City Hospital, and Prince George's General Hospital, in addition to Crownsville, Rosewood, Spring Grove, Springfield, and Eastern Shore

Hospital Centers. In cooperation with the Department of Correction, units have been established at the Maryland Correctional Training Center and the Maryland Penitentiary. The Division, in cooperation with the local education agencies, serves the handicapped school population aged sixteen and over throughout the State. The Division operates the Maryland Rehabilitation Center in Baltimore, one of eight such centers in the United States.

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Division of Vocational-Technical Education provides leadership in planning and supervising the vocational curricula in the public schools in the areas of agriculture, distributive education, home economics, technical education, health occupations, trades and industry, business and office education, as well as in the nonvocational program of industrial arts. This Division also administers the training programs authorized under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act and the Area Redevelopment Act. Adult vocational education, teacher training programs, and industrial training are also administered by this Division. The Federal funds granted to the State for these purposes are allocated through the Division (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., Art. 77, secs. 125 and 133).

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