

(8) (a) In this article, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

(i) 1. "Vocational rehabilitation SERVICES" means professional services reasonably necessary DURING OR AFTER OR BOTH DURING AND AFTER MEDICAL TREATMENT to enable an injured employee, as soon as practical, to ~~to~~ achieve maximum medical improvement and ~~to~~ secure suitable gainful employment.

- INCLUDES:
- 2. "VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES"
 - A. COORDINATION OF MEDICAL SERVICES;
 - B. VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT;
 - C. VOCATIONAL EVALUATION;
 - D. VOCATIONAL COUNSELING;
 - E. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT;
 - F. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLAN MONITORING;
 - G. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION TRAINING;
 - H. JOB DEVELOPMENT; AND
 - I. JOB PLACEMENT.

(ii) "Suitable gainful employment" means employment, including self-employment, which restores the injured employee, to the extent possible, to the level of support at the time of the injury, giving due consideration to the employee's qualifications, interests, incentives, preinjury earnings, and future earning capacity; the nature and extent of the injury; and the current and future condition of the labor market.

(III) "VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT" MEANS THE PROCESS OF:

1. COLLECTING AND ANALYZING ALL THE MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL, VOCATIONAL, SOCIAL, LEGAL, AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF AN INJURED EMPLOYEE, INCLUDING THE INJURED EMPLOYEE'S PRESENT PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES; AND

2. DETERMINING THE APPROPRIATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES REASONABLY NECESSARY TO RETURN THE INJURED EMPLOYEE TO SUITABLE GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT.