South Central Oklahoma

Photo: Mount Scott Rock formation

UNITING TALENT WITH OPPORTUNITY

Connecting Oklahoma businesses with a skilled and loyal workforce

DRS can be a resource for your business:

● We send you qualified candidates for employment

● We can share startup costs

● Our candidates are loyal employees, offering lower turnover

● Tax credits may be available

Graphic: Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services Logo.

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Who we are:

The Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) expands opportunities for employment, independent life and economic self-sufficiency by helping Oklahomans with disabilities bridge barriers to success in the workplace, school and at home.

Photo: Woman in Wheelchair talking with hospital co-workers.

Benefits to employers:

A wide variety of free training for your staff.

Tax incentives for hiring our candidates and making your workplace accessible.

A loyal and skilled workforce with lower turnover that will reduce your costs.

Determine if the job and your business are a good fit with the potential employee with DRS’ On-the-Job Training.

Empowering Oklahomans with disabilities

Photo: Man working at office desk.

Support for our candidates with follow up and accommodation needs.

Paid internships and paid work experience.

Increase revenues by having a workplace that reflects the customers served. Employing people with disabilities helps generate revenues by allowing you to tap into the disability market, build brand trust and loyalty, and create new products and services.

Who I am:

I am a business services liaison for DRS’ Business Services Program. My job is to understand your company’s needs and provide job candidates that will benefit your business’ bottom line.

Please contact me so that we can discuss how DRS can be a great resource for your company.

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

Tanna Vu, general manager, Hilton Garden Inn, Lawton

Tanna Vu invests in DRS clients to work at her Lawton hotel, and that decision is paying off with employees who are ready to work and happy to be there.

“It has been very positive,” Vu said. “Everyone needs an opportunity to show what they can do. I have to say they are probably my best employees.”

Vu is the general manager of the Hilton Garden Inn in Lawton and works closely with the DRS Transition program at the city’s high schools and with DRS clients at Great Plains Technology Center. She even helps prepare those clients for work by taking part in mock interviews.

Several DRS clients have worked at her hotel with two now currently employed – one as a housekeeper and the second in the hotel’s kitchen.

“They are just positive,” Vu said. “They come in with a smile on their face. I don’t think I have ever seen them not smiling. I can never tell if they have had a bad day or not because they do not show it at work. If you could model every employee like that, how great would that be?”

Vu said she encourages all employers to work with DRS in getting clients into their workforce. She said there has been no additional costs to her company because of hiring a worker with a disability.

Graphic: Gold star with words Tax break.

You may qualify for tax credits

You may get a federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit of up to 40-percent of the first $6,000 of first-year wages of a new employee if the employee is part of a “targeted group” -- www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/wotcEmployers.cfm.

WOTC reduces a business’ costs, requires little paperwork and applying for WOTC is simple. There is no limit on the number of individuals a business can hire to qualify to claim the tax credit.

Other tax credits may also be available.

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Graphic: Oklahoma Rehabilitation Services logo.

Connect with DRS Business Services Program:

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www.okdrs.gov/business-services

Graphic: Oklahoma Works logo.

www.oklahomaworks.gov

It’s about ability not disability