



Naperville Central High School

440 W. Aurora Ave
Naperville, Illinois 60540

Graduating Seniors

TO: NCHS Parents/Guardians

RE: Application for Department of Human/Rehabilitation Services (DHS/DRS)

As part of your student's transition process, we would like to offer him/her the opportunity to apply to participate in DRS's Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS). DRS is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities (IEP or 504 plan). DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to assist them in making informed choices to achieve full community participation through employment and education or training opportunities. Students that will benefit from services for employment or education/training may begin the application process here at NCHS. The state provides various services, college/training financial contribution and employment assistance. If seeking educational assistance, student will need to provide a letter of acceptance into an approved training/trade program or college/university (see attached list of documents).

Naperville North and Naperville Central will be holding virtual informational sessions in the spring with the DRS Representative. After submitting, the signed release of records to me, the student's IEP, signed consent forms, and the referral forms are submitted to our DRS counselor. She reviews the information and meets with the student and parents to discuss his/her needs, skills, and plans for education/training and their end goal of chosen employment. Once the required documents are received by DRS (deadline June 30th), the counselor processes the referral and develops the student's individual employment plan (IEP). Upon graduation, any additional meetings are at the Downers Grove DRS office or virtually with the representative pending state provisions.

In order to begin the process you will need to sign the **District 203 Authorization for Release of Special Education Information, DRS Referral Form, and DRS Consent for Services Form (if student is under 18 years of age) and the Privacy Policy Form.** We will compile and submit the components needed for the referral with the DRS counselor. Note Privacy Policy states that DRS will use the student's IEP for providing services to the student. In addition, the student's SSN is used to enter the referral into the state site for providing any services and funding.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this process, please reach out to us.

Jennifer Jansen

Naperville Central High School
Learning Behavioral Specialist I
440 W. Aurora Avenue
Naperville, IL 60540
Voicemail: (630) 420-4262
jjansen@naperville203.org

Christine Filer

Naperville Central High School
Learning Behavioral Specialist I
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What is the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)?

- DHS's Division of Rehabilitation Services is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities. DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to assist them in making informed choices to achieve full community participation through employment, education, and independent living opportunities

Who is eligible for DRS services?

- All students with a documented disability receiving services outlined in an IEP or a 504 Plan.
- Students who plan on attending college or a vocational/trade school or program
- Students who will need assistance finding and keeping a job in the future

What services can DRS offer to students who are attending college or trade school next year?

- Financial assistance with college/trade school*
 - Able to provide financial assistance for trade school, community college, and (in some cases) 4-year universities → Students **must** have identified a program of study
 - *DRS requires FAFSA to be completed by all clients*
 - *Financial assistance from DRS is **not** always influenced by parental income*
- Can assist individuals to a find job in their field of interest/study following graduation

Stipulations for Continued Financial Aid:

- Must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better (if GPA goes lower, person is determined ineligible)
- Will not pay for retakes for classes that are failed
- 3 years to complete a 2 year program and 5 years to complete a 4 year program
- Must be students seeking a degree or certification, not remedial classes or “trials”
- Students must have identified program of study before DRS will assist financially
- Grades, schedule, and tuition bill must be submitted at the end of each semester

DRS Informational Meetings:

- DRS Counselor will be coming to NNHS in the spring to hold informational meetings (pending COVID restrictions) for students and families. If necessary virtual meetings will be arranged. All referral and intake meetings after graduation will be taking place at the DRS Downers Grove office based on their procedures at that time.

***Downers Grove DRS Office
Rehabilitation Services
2901 Finley Road, Suite 109
Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: (630) 495-0500***

(For self-referral after high school)

Referral Link: <https://wr.dhs.illinois.gov/wrpublic/wr/dynamic/referral.jsf>

DHS: Rehabilitation Services: Referral and Application

Last Name:	
First Name:	
Middle Initial:	Gender:
Other Program Code: Veteran: (Y) or (N)	Medicaid Recipient (Y) (N) Migrant Worker (Y) (N)
Reason for Referral:	College / Career Training
Disability:	
Social Security Number:	
Age/Date of Birth:	
Address:	
County:	
Phone Number: Contact (cell or home)	
Email Address:	
Referral Service	Naperville Central High School Jennifer Jansen or Christine Filer (630) 420-4262 or (630) 420-3035 jjansen@naperville203.org or cfiler@naperville203.org
Accommodations or Language needs:	



State of Illinois
Department of Human Services- Division of Rehabilitation Services
Consent for Services (if under age 18)

I hereby give consent (permission) for _____ to receive and participate in vocational rehabilitation services that will lead to employment.

(Parent or Guardian Signature)

(Date)

Administrative Center	203 W Hillside Road	Naperville, IL 60540-6589	630-420-6465	FAX:630-420-6566
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AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE/EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

I/we hereby authorize the exchange of communications and the release/exchange of the following records concerning

_____ (student's name) _____ (birthdate)

between **Naperville School District 203** agents and employees and:

Name/Title: Risikat Abiola Akinmolayan, M.A.

Agency/Organization Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services

:

Address: 2901 Finley Road, Suite #109, Downers Grove, IL 60515

Telephone: 630-495-0500 E-mail: Risikat.Akinmolayan@illinois.gov

The following information will be released/exchanged:

- All permanent records (including, but not limited to, basic identifying information, academic transcript, attendance records, health records and scores received on all State assessments administered in grades 9-12, where applicable)
- All temporary records (including, but not limited to, scores on State assessments administered in grades K-8, discipline records, health-related information, accident reports, aptitude and achievement test results, report cards, progress monitoring information, special education records, and Section 504 records)
- All IEP/special education and/or Section 504 records
- Other (specify): Communication

These disclosures are authorized pursuant to 20 U.S.C. Section 1232g, 105 ILCS 10/1 et seq., and 740 ILCS 110/1 et seq.,* and are to be made for the purpose of:

- Educational evaluation and/or planning
- Other (specify): _____

I understand that I have the right to inspect and copy the information to be disclosed, challenge its contents, and limit my consent to designated records or portions of the information contained in those records. I also understand that my refusal to consent to the exchange of records and communications could result in incomplete and/or inappropriate educational planning for the student. This consent expires one year from the date indicated below. However, I understand that I have the right to revoke this consent in writing at any time.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

WITNESS SIGNATURE (for mental health/
developmental disability records)

DATE

STUDENT SIGNATURE (for mental health/
developmental disability records, if student is age 12 or older)

DATE

* NOTE: Prior to the release of protected health information, health care providers may require the parent/guardian to execute an additional authorization form to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (AHIPAA@).

SEND RECORDS TO:

District 203 Principal	<u>Jackie Thornton</u>
District 203 School	<u>Naperville Central High School</u>
District 203 Address	<u>440 W. Aurora Avenue</u>
	<u>Naperville, IL 60540</u>