

## Who is eligible?

A person can be referred for a vocational assessment if they:

1. Are under the care of a consultant at the NRH
2. Have sustained an injury or illness that impacts on their ability to work
3. Are over 16 years of age
4. Have training or employment as a potential goal

Referrals can be made through an Occupational Therapist, Medical Consultant, or the NRH Rehabilitative Training Unit.

The timing of assessment is very important and should be carried out when the person has reached maximum physical and functional potential in relation to rehabilitation goals.

The person being referred should also have reasonable insight into the nature of their disability and the implications this may have for work options.

## Contact details for:

**Vocational Assessment**  
Occupational Therapy Department

**Telephone:** (01) 235 5228



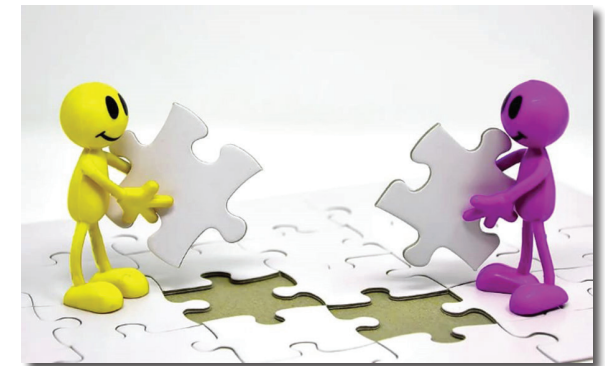
**National Rehabilitation Hospital**  
Rochestown Avenue, Dún Laoghaire,  
Co. Dublin, A96 RPN4  
**Telephone** (01) 235 5000  
[www.nrh.ie](http://www.nrh.ie)



Ant Ospidéal N áisiúnta Athshlánúcháin

Occupational Therapy Department

## Vocational Assessment



**A Guide for Patients**



The National Rehabilitation Hospital is accredited by CARF (Commission for accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) for a range of services, confirming they meet recognized international standards

## What is Vocational Assessment?

Vocational Assessment works with the person to explore realistic work, training or education options after injury.

Assessment is carried out as a logical progression in the rehabilitative process to address the personal goal of return to work.

The aims of assessment are:

- To work collaboratively with the person to gain insight into strengths and weaknesses
- To assess work or training related aptitudes
- To explore the demands of the job with a view to return to work
- To explore alternative work, occupation, education or training options
- To liaise with and to assist employers with information, recommendations and support where appropriate, for example, work site visits, ergonomic assessments and advice
- To link with community services following discharge



## What is involved?

Vocational Assessment forms part of a total evaluation which consists of a detailed interview followed by the administration of a number of assessments.

The interview will consider:

- Medical History
- Social Situation
- Impact of Injury
- Present Status and Issues
- Educational History
- Work History
- Interests and Leisure
- Ambition
- Benefits

It may be useful to bring a CV to the interview.

Relevant standardised vocational assessments may be carried out. These look at a person's speed, accuracy and manual dexterity. Some of the assessments used include:

- Valpar Component Work Sample Series
- Crawford's Small Parts Dexterity Test
- Purdue Peg Board
- General Clerical Test
- Vocational Interest Exploration

## Who carries out the assessment?

The assessment will be carried out by an Occupational Therapist specialising in the area of Vocational Assessment.



## What happens next?

Feedback will be given during the assessment. Recommendations and advice will also be given where appropriate.

A report will be compiled and provided to the referring therapist or consultant and added to the healthcare record.

Referrals may be made to relevant community services where appropriate.

Reviews may be carried out where appropriate, for example, where there has been a change in circumstances.

### **Please note:**

This is specifically an assessment service and is not a service to provide work placement, work experience or employment.