

the supports available for those seeking employment or pre-employment training. Possible benefits include the Disability Support Pension, the Pensioner Education Supplement, Youth Allowance and Health Care Card.

### Productivity based wages and pension entitlements

Productivity based wages are a feature of many industrial awards. Employees with impairments or disabilities may be assessed for a 'productivity' rate which is then applied as a proportion of the 'full award wage'. Most other entitlements like superannuation, leave, health and safety standards are not affected. The actual wage paid is the award wage adjusted by the productivity assessment. In most cases, employees with a disability do not lose their Disability Support Pension entitlements and may be financially better off.

To obtain your free copy of Exploring the Possibilities: Post School Options for Young People with a Disability contact the VALID office on 1800 655 570 or download the publication from [www.valid.org.au/books.htm](http://www.valid.org.au/books.htm)

### Other Useful websites

Victorian Essential Learning Standards – Students with Disabilities [vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/disability.html#introduction](http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/support/disability.html#introduction)

Managed Individual Pathways [www.education.vic.gov.au/senscyouth/careertrans/mips](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/senscyouth/careertrans/mips)

Vocational Education and Training [www.education.gov.au/goved/go/pid/17](http://www.education.gov.au/goved/go/pid/17)

Structured Workplace Learning [www.dest.gov.au/sectors/career\\_development](http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/career_development)

Centrelink [www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)

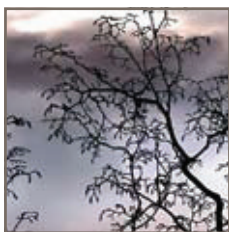
TAFE [www.tafe.vic.gov.au](http://www.tafe.vic.gov.au)

Job Capacity Assessment [www.jca.gov.au](http://www.jca.gov.au) or telephone 1300 136 526

Disability Employment Network [www.jobaccess.gov.au](http://www.jobaccess.gov.au) or telephone 1800 464 800

Disability Supported Employment [www.facsia.gov.au](http://www.facsia.gov.au) or telephone 1300 653 227

Futures for Young Adults [www.dhs.vic.gov.au/futures](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/futures) or telephone 1800 783 783



## Depression checklist for adults with intellectual disability

An online checklist has been developed by Dr Jennifer Torr, Director of Mental Health at the Centre for Developmental Disability Health Victoria, with funding assistance from Beyond Blue. The Depression Checklist is for use by carers, in particular paid support staff. It is intended to be completed on behalf of adults who are unable to report their own feelings or symptoms because of severe communication impairment.

The Depression Checklist provides carers with a means of ensuring they have noted and recorded the information that is needed by a medical practitioner to decide:

- if an adult with an intellectual disability may have depression or a related mental health problem, and
- if referral to a mental health specialist or practitioner is appropriate.

The Checklist should be completed by a carer prior to attending a medical consultation with a GP. Hence, it should be given to the GP with other information about the history of the adult and further information of relevance to his/her health care. It can also be taken to a consultation with a mental health professional. It is recommended that the Checklist be dated and kept in the adult's home medical file, as this will provide a record of changes in any of the symptoms noted. The online Depression Checklist is available at <http://www.cddh.monash.org/research/depression/>