

Thanayus Thanathiti 2006: A Proposed Training Model in Vocational Skills for Disabled Persons.  
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Vocational training for disabled persons takes an important role in achieving the disabled's self-reliance. This study aimed to propose a model of vocational training for disabled persons in Thailand. The research objectives were 1) to study skill-based vocational areas suitable for each type of disability; 2) to construct skill-based vocational training model suitable for the Thai disabled persons; and 3) to assess suitability of the proposed model and its effective application. The research process consisted of two stages: 1) model development, based on theoretical concepts and status survey from 80 instructors and 384 disabled students; and 2) model assessment by a panel of 21 experts.

The conclusions are as follows:

1. Responses from the instructors and students were consistent regarding vocational areas suitable for type of disability. Disabled persons having two arms can be trained for all areas of vocations: business (computer science), fine arts (handicraft and manual work), home economics (clothing and apparel) and vocational industry (mechanics, electrics and electronics). The disabled having only one arm can be trained only in the vocational areas of business and fine arts.

2. The proposed skill-based training model for disabled persons consists of 6 components: instructor qualifications, student characteristics, vocational training process, training environment management, training evaluation, and training quality assurance. Emphasis should be placed on individual education program (IEP) and quality assurance of vocational training for disabled persons.

3. To apply the training model effectively, recommendations are: 1) fulfillment for the readiness of vocational training centers regarding instructors, curriculum, physical facilities, supporting personnel, vocational competency assessment and quality assurance; 2) policy support in national strategic plan for vocational training targetted to the disabled, incentive campaign for workplace cooperation in job placement, loan for vocational establishment, and facilitation for the readiness of local organizations in community-based rehabilitation (CBR) management of vocational training; and 3) research and development in workplace-relevant curriculum and supporting facilities for vocational training of disabled persons.

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