

Independent Living Older Blind

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) is the state agency that partners with Ohioans with disabilities to achieve quality employment, independence and Social Security disability determination outcomes. It is accomplished through its Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR), Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) and Division of Disability Determination (DDD). A fourth area is the Division of Employer and Innovation Services (EIS), which is responsible for establishing and maintaining partnerships with employers.

OOD's Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) program provides training in the areas of rehabilitation teaching and mobility and orientation training to assist eligible seniors residing in Ohio with severe visual impairments to remain independent. Services are designed to assist individuals to maintain independent living and avoid the costly alternative of institutionally based care.

Professionally trained rehabilitation counselors provide direct services to consumers through community rehabilitation partners or directly through OOD counselors. Services include:

- Orientation and mobility skills training to enable older individuals who are blind to travel independently, safely and confidently in familiar and unfamiliar environments,
- Skills training in Braille, handwriting, typewriting or other means of communication,
- Communication aids, such as large print, cassette tape recorders, and readers,
- Training to perform daily living activities, such as meal preparation, identifying coins and currency, selection of clothing, telling time and maintaining a household,
- Provision of low-vision services and aids, such as magnifiers to perform reading and mobility tasks, and
- Family and individual counseling services to assist older individuals who are blind in adjusting emotionally to the loss of vision as well as to assisting in their integration into the community and its resources.

Eligibility

Eligibility for OOD's ILOB program is based on three criteria:

- An individual must be 55 years of age or older,
- An individual must have significant vision impairment that interferes with activities of daily living, and
- Independent living goals are feasible with appropriate services.

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

150 East Campus View Blvd., Columbus, OH 43235

Mailing Address: 400 East Campus View Blvd., Columbus, OH 43235

800-282-4536 toll-free

www.ood.ohio.gov

www.OODWorks.com

Follow us

