



Opportunities for Ohioans  
with Disabilities



## Independent Living Services for Older Blind Ohioans

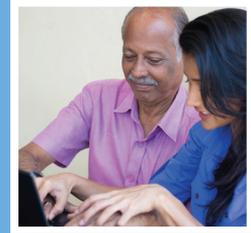
Many older Ohioans with severe visual impairments may no longer be interested in employment, but want to retain their ability to live independently.

**Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)** provides services to individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

**OOD's Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI)** offers services through its Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) program to promote the independence and self-sufficiency for qualifying Ohio citizens.

## OOD Can Help By:

- Providing adaptive equipment
- Training in the use of assistive technology
- Providing orientation and mobility training to ensure safety and fall prevention
- Providing creative approaches to activities of daily living such as home skills and self-care skills



## Eligibility

Assistance is provided to Ohioans who:

- Are age 55 or older
- Have a documented severe visual impairment, which makes competitive employment extremely difficult to obtain
- Have independent living goals that are feasible
- Require and can benefit from Independent Living services in order to obtain or maintain independent living

For more information, visit [ood.ohio.gov](http://ood.ohio.gov) or call **800-282-4536**.

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## MOST OOD SERVICES ARE FREE!

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with Disabilities

ILOB



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Programs provided by Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) are funded, in whole or in part, with federal grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

For purposes of the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program, including Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS), OOD received 78.7% of its funding through the DOE VR grant. In Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2019, OOD received \$99,548,657 in federal funds. Funds appropriated by the State covered 21.3 % of the total costs, or \$26,942,648. Of these federal funds, \$14,932,299 is set aside for Pre-ETS.

For purposes of the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who are Blind (OIB) Program, the federal grant received from DOE in FFY 2019 paid 90% of the total costs incurred under the program. In FFY 2019, OOD received \$1,153,208 in federal grant funds. Funds appropriated by the State paid over the 10% required match or \$130,000 of the total costs incurred under the OIB program.

For purposes of the Independent Living (IL) Program, the federal grant received from HHS paid 90% of the total costs incurred in FFY 2019. In FFY 2019, OOD received funding of \$640,571. Funds appropriated by the State paid 10% or \$71,175 of the total costs incurred under the IL Program.