



Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

INDEPENDENCE: Believe and Achieve!

MISSION

The New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI) works to promote and provide services in the areas of education, employment, independence, and eye health through informed choice and partnership with persons who are blind, deaf-blind and visually impaired, their families, and the community.

ELIGIBILITY: A person is eligible to receive services if they are experiencing a vision impairment that is affecting their normal daily life activities and meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Best corrected distance visual acuity of 20/70 or less in the better eye
OR
- Visual field of 40 degrees or less in the better eye

CBVI services and programs are available to all eligible vision impaired NJ residents without regard to other disabling condition, sex, age, race, nationality or religious and cultural orientation.

Services and Programs



Educational Services provides instruction, resources, and other services to eligible children who are blind, deaf-blind or visually impaired, from birth through 12th grade, and their families to ensure equal access and classroom participation.

Services include information and training for families of infants and toddlers. Services to school age children includes literacy enhancement; instruction in special areas; training and the loan of assistive equipment and devices and the provision of accessible textbooks and other instructional materials from the **George F. Meyer Instructional Resource Center**.



Vocational Rehabilitation provides training, counseling and other supportive services that enable people who are blind, deaf-blind and visually impaired to develop, acquire or update skills that can enable them to enter the workforce, maintain employment or become self-employed.

Services include vocational evaluation; counseling; training; job placement; post-employment services; college counseling/ support; vending facility and business enterprise program; marketing of home-crafted products; high school transitional services; and training at the **Joseph Kohn Training Center in New Brunswick**.

Services and Programs (continued)



Independent Living Skills Services provides training designed to help people of any age who are blind, deaf-blind or visually impaired to adjust to their vision loss and gain the skills in the activities of daily living that they will need to lead a productive and independent life.

Services may include: in home instruction for independence in daily-living activities and home management, including childcare; instruction in methods for safe and independent travel within the home, community, work, and school environment; eye health nursing and instruction on adaptive equipment and devices, such as insulin syringes and talking glucometers to monitor healthcare; training in Braille, cell phone use and other communication methods; referral to peer support groups for people experiencing vision loss and referral to helpful community resources.



Project BEST (Better Eye-Health Services and Treatment) works to save sight and restore vision when medically possible through free vision screenings, eye health education and referrals for necessary services for children and adults.

Services may include: Mobile eye examination unit; regularly scheduled eye screenings at fixed sites all over the state; vision screening for preschool and school-age children; on-site screening at institutions and in communities by invitation; special diabetic detection and awareness programs; and other specialized eye screening programs which target historically underserved populations (i.e., minorities, the elderly, migrant farmworkers, etc.).



CBVI May Also Help With: Registering for recorded books, newspapers and magazines; voter registration; income tax certification letters; fishing license; referrals to community-based programs and services; reduced fare applications for public transportation; and assessment for low and high technical aids, appliances and devices designed specifically to help people with vision loss.

TO MAKE A REFERRAL OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT US:

Main Number: (973) 648-3333 / Toll Free Number: (877) 685-8878

General Information E-mail: askcbvi@dhs.nj.gov

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Visit us on the web at: www.cbvi.nj.gov



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