

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED
Contract Funds for CBVI Transition Summer Programs

TAKE NOTICE that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, 34.5 and 34.6, the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI) hereby announces the availability of the grant program funds described herein.

Program Name: CBVI Transition Summer Programs

Purpose: This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by The New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), on behalf of CBVI for a new administrative home for the CBVI Summer Transition Programs. Total funding is \$800,000, paid out quarterly from Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) federal funds. This funding will be through a fee-for service model.

CBVI provides VR services to individuals who are blind, deaf-blind and visually impaired. CBVI's services foster independence and the achievement of employment goals.

State VR agencies must ensure Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) services are available for applicable students with disabilities in the State, but VR agencies are not required to provide all ["5 required Pre-ETS activities"](#) for each student with a disability. For example, this is true if the activities are determined to not be necessary or have already been provided by a Local Education Agency (LEA). State VR agencies may not duplicate services that are already provided by LEAs through the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA), so if the LEA has already provided a particular Pre-ETS service, the VR agency cannot provide that same service. As long as the individual is a student with a disability and in need of the service, the Pre-ETS activities may start and end multiple times.

The *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended by the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA), requires CBVI to develop and expand its Pre-ETS services. As a result, CBVI is looking for a new administrative home for the CBVI Summer Transition Programs.

CBVI's Pre-ETS programs help students identify their career interests, which can be explored more in the VR process (i.e., during Transition or other VR Services). A student receiving Pre-ETS/transition services is assigned to a transition, college, or deaf-blind counselor. The counselor will refer the students to CBVI Summer Transition Programs where they are prepared for life after high school.

Available Funding Amount: Total annualized funding is \$800,000.

Who Can Apply/Bidder Qualifications:

To be eligible for consideration for this RFP, the bidder must satisfy the following requirements:

1. The bidder may be a non-profit, for-profit, or governmental entity
2. The bidder must ensure all staff have experience or have been trained in working with visually impaired, deaf-blind and blind students.
3. The bidder must submit proof of staff experience and/or training.
4. For a bidder that has a contract with CBVI in place when this RFP is issued, that bidder must have all outstanding Plans of Correction for deficiencies submitted to CBVI for approval prior to proposal submission.
5. The bidder must be fiscally viable based upon an assessment of the bidder's audited financial statements. If a bidder is determined, in CBVI's sole discretion, to be insolvent or to present insolvency within the twelve (12) months after bid submission, CBVI will deem the proposal ineligible for contract award.
6. The bidder must not appear on the State of New Jersey Consolidated Debarment Report or be suspended or debarred by any other State or Federal entity from receiving funds.
7. Pursuant to DHS Contract Policy and Information Manual Policy Circular 8.05, the bidder shall not have a conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between the private interests and the official responsibilities of a person in a position of trust. Persons in a position of trust include Provider Agency staff members, officers and Governing Board Members. A bidder must have written Conflict of Interest policies and procedures that satisfy the requirements of P8.05, thereby ensuring that paid Board members do not participate in transactions except as expressly provided in the P8.05 circular; and
8. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, a for-profit bidder and each proposed subcontractor must have a valid Business Registration Certificate on file with the Division of Revenue. This statutory requirement does not apply to non-profit organizations, private colleges and universities, or state and municipal agencies.

Proposal Procedure: Effective, January 20th, 2026, the Request for Proposal (RFP) is available at <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/providers/grants/>. A proposal must be submitted that comports with the RFP requirements and instructions.

Proposal Receiving Office: Selina Gooden
Department of Human Services
Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired
PO Box 47017
Newark, NJ 07101

Submission Deadline: Proposals must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. ET on March 4th, 2026. The bidder must submit its proposal (including proposal narrative,

budget, budget notes, and appendices) electronically to:

Contact: Selina Gooden, Administrative Assistant, CBVI

Email: Selina.Gooden@DHS.NJ.gov



Sarah Adelman, Commissioner

1/20/2026

Date