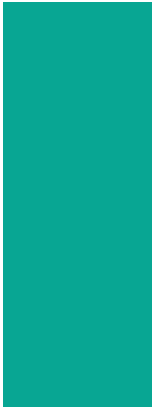
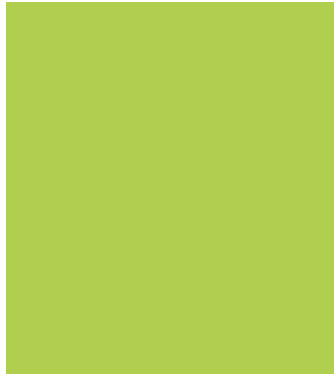
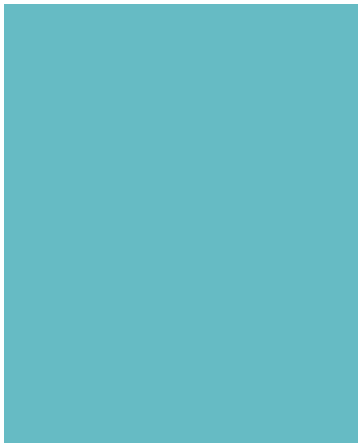


Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

RSB



Overview

RSB helps eligible blind and visually impaired persons achieve personal and employment success. Services are provided with the belief that with the right training and resources each blind or visually impaired person will be able to achieve this goal.

Programs available

Vocational Rehabilitation
- Pre-Employment and Transition Services

Business Enterprise Program

Children's Services Program

Independent Living Program

Older Blind Services Program

Prevention of Blindness

Vocational Rehabilitation Program

Who Is Eligible?

You may be eligible for help through the Vocational Rehabilitation Program if:

- You are legally blind or have other severe visual impairment
- The physical or mental impairment creates and substantial barrier to employment
- Vocational Rehabilitation services are required

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

RSB's rehabilitation team works individually with each blind/visually impaired person in their home to determine what services will best help them reach their personal employment goal. These Vocational Rehabilitation services may include:

- **Diagnosis and Evaluation:** Your counselor may request vocational and other assessments to determine eligibility and services needed.
- **Counseling and Guidance:** RSB's team assists in assessing interests and abilities so a suitable vocational goal can be selected.
- **Training:** Whether it's daily living activities or vocational training to prepare for a specific job or career, RSB services are provided to meet individual needs.
- **Transition Services:** Assist blind or visually impaired youth (age 14+) to transition to college and work. RSB may attend Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings. They may arrange for job exploration, work experiences, or college prep programs, as well as other skills to help youth transition to college and work.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

- **Job Placement/Post-Employment:** RSB counselors will help in job-seeking efforts. RSB counselors are also available to provide consultation for those having difficulty maintaining employment due to decreased vision.
- **Rehabilitation Technology:** There are many aids available to assist a blind individual's ability to work. These items help a visually impaired person by magnifying, reading text, and the help identify objects. RSB personnel are knowledgeable about these aids and can assist in selecting and providing the appropriate equipment for the job.

Pre-Employment Transition Services

- Pre-employment Transition Services are provided to potentially eligible youth in the Children's Services program and eligible youth in the Vocational Rehabilitation program. Services may include:
 - Internal Services
 - Workplace Readiness Training Programs
 - Work-Based Learning Experiences

Older Blind/Independent Living Services

- The Older Blind Services program works with Missourians who are blind or visually impaired and are 55 years of age or older. Services are provided to help seniors who have lost or are losing their sight remain in their homes and keep their independence.
- Through the Independent Living Rehabilitation Program, rehabilitation teachers provide instruction on techniques that enable blind and visually impaired to continue doing most of the things around their homes and community that they have done in the past.

Business Enterprise Program

The Randolph-Sheppard Program is administered by Rehabilitation Services for the Blind's Business Enterprise Program (BEP). Lion's Business Opportunities for the Missouri Blind Inc., a private, not-for-profit corporation, acts as an agent for Family Support Division in the provision of management services and fund administration.

What services are available?

The BEP helps blind persons achieve success as self-employed entrepreneurs. The BEP:

- Develops business sites in state, federal and other locations
- Provides business opportunities including vending routes, convenience stores, snack bars, and full-service C

Children's Services Program

- RSB has staff who specialize in providing free services to blind or visually impaired children and their families
- The CS program consists of 5 Children's Specialists that serve youth across the state
- The Children's Services program can help children and their families to:
 - Provide parent education on blindness in children and how to increase independent living skills
 - Provide advocacy services for blind or visually impaired children and their families
 - Attend Individual Educational Program (IEP) meetings at the request of the family or school
 - Provide referral and resource information to schools and families about issues involving vision loss
 - Coordinate and provide pre-employment transition services for students with a disability ages 14-21 and who are potentially eligible
 - Refer potentially eligible youth to our Vocational Rehabilitation program when the client is ready and a referral is appropriate.



Prevention of Blindness

The Prevention of Blindness Program (POB) is a statewide program that provides free education about blindness and other eye conditions, and eye care services.

Staff perform basic vision screenings to inform the public, partner agencies, employers, etc. the importance of eye health.

Our goal is to prevent blindness through early diagnosis and treatment.

How to Refer?

Contact our Main Line at:
1-800-592-6004

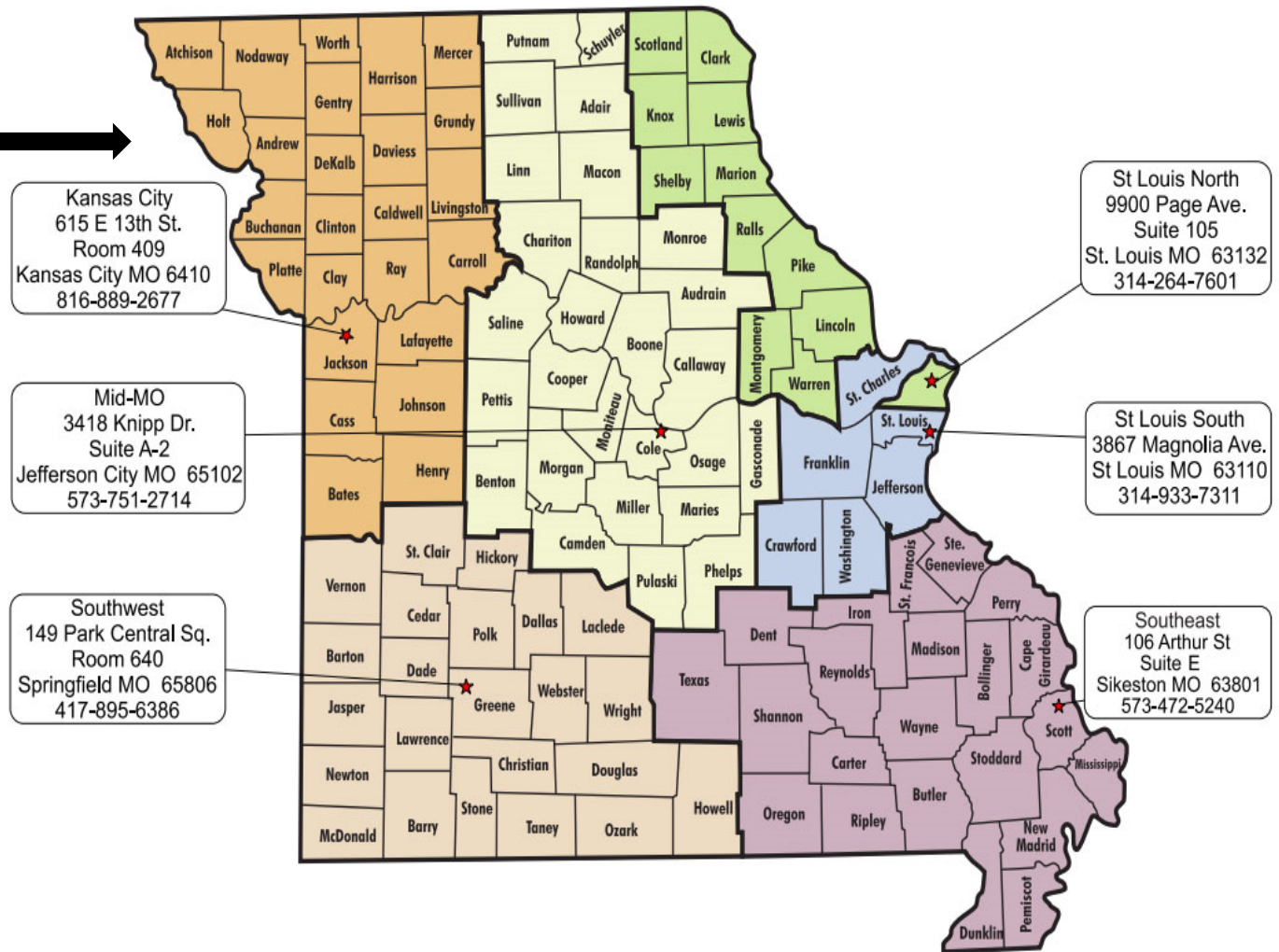
Contact a District Office directly: 

Email us at:
askrsb@dss.mo.gov

Visit our Website at:
<https://dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/>

Submit an Online Referral at:
<https://formsportal.dss.mo.gov/content/forms/af/moa/my-dss/rehab-services-for-the-blind/blind-referral-form.html>

RSB District Map
by Counties



Our Mission



Empower Missourians to live safe, healthy, and productive lives.