

COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

What is the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired?

The Commission is a state agency offering vocational rehabilitation and independent living services for those who are blind and visually impaired. The agency assists blind and visually impaired individuals in leading full and rewarding lives as they participate in the world competently and independently.

What does the Commission provide?

Services provided include:

- Training and instruction in independent living skills. This may include training related to independent travel, public transportation, community access, home management, apartment living, keyboarding and computer skills, adaptive technology, and Braille.
- Career counseling and assistance in securing or maintaining employment. Services may include career exploration, interest testing, and vocational planning.
- Assistance to allow for post-secondary education, such as assistance with tuition, books, and equipment.
- Assistance in securing occupational equipment, tools, and supplies.
- Advocacy services.
- Counseling individuals and family members regarding blindness.
- Transition services.
- Assistance in establishing a small business.
- Consultation services for agencies and organizations interacting with persons with visual impairments.

Who is eligible?

The Commission serves all ages. In order to be eligible, an individual must have a visual condition that may lead to blindness or have sight impairments which seriously limit the individual's ability to engage in the ordinary vocations and activities of life. Typically, this means persons who experience difficulties in pursuing day-to-day activities and obtaining employment due to visual impairment. Federal and State statutes also require that to receive benefits, the individual must be physically present in the state and must be either a citizen or have legal status within the country.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Information may be obtained by calling the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired at 1-877-809-2419 or by visiting their website at <http://www.ncbvi.ne.gov>.