

# 2025 Annual Report



**MDRS**

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
REHABILITATION SERVICES

*Opportunities for Independence*

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## Mission Statement

The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS) is the state agency dedicated to helping Mississippians with disabilities to live and work independently. It is the mission of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS) to provide appropriate and comprehensive services to Mississippians with disabilities in a timely and effective manner. Programs and services assist individuals with disabilities to gain employment, retain employment and to live more independently.

## Vision Statement

The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services is committed to being recognized as the premier agency for Mississippians with disabilities by creating a culture of care with compassionate, valued, and knowledgeable staff. We will promote an environment where customers and staff work together to achieve our common goal of empowering and improving the lives of Mississippians with disabilities.



**Billy Taylor**  
Executive Director

On behalf of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, I am proud to present the State Fiscal Year 2025 (SFY25) Annual Report. My hope is that this report demonstrates MDRS' commitment to empowering Mississippians with disabilities to achieve independence and success, regardless of the challenges they face.

As I reflect on my first full year as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS), I am both humbled and grateful for the progress we have made together. In SFY25 we saw federal partnerships evolve and service demands shift, however, MDRS remained focused on its mission. We recognize the profound impact our work has on the lives of those we serve and the state of Mississippi, as such, I am proud of MDRS's perseverance through what has been a challenging year. The agency not only met those challenges head-on but also transformed them into opportunities for growth and progress.

When appointed Executive Director of MDRS last year, I outlined three principles to guide our future. Those principles of transparency, efficiency, and a continuous focus on employee and client satisfaction have continued to guide us. We have worked diligently to strengthen transparency by providing greater clarity and accessibility around our policies and programs—ensuring that clients, staff, and stakeholders across Mississippi remain informed and engaged. We have enhanced efficiency by evaluating and refining our processes to better utilize the resources entrusted to us, allowing us to deliver services more effectively and responsively. And through a continued focus on employee and client satisfaction, we are working to foster a culture of collaboration, respect, and purpose that drives our collective success.

While this report presents an abundance of data, numbers, and programmatic achievements, the true story of the MDRS cannot be captured by statistics alone. Behind every figure lies a person - a Mississippian - whose life has been changed or a family whose future has been reshaped. As this report is read, we implore you to look beyond the numbers and see what is truly represented: the countless lives touched, the families strengthened, and the communities enriched through the work of MDRS. Every statistic, at its core, is a reminder of why our mission matters and why we continue to serve with unwavering commitment and compassion. With the continued dedication of our talented staff, the trust of our partners, and the resilience of the Mississippians we serve, I am confident that together we will continue to make meaningful progress toward a brighter future for those we serve.

Highlighted below, are just some of the SFY2025 accomplishments made in our four major programs:

#### **Disability Determination Services Program (DDS)**

Despite nationwide staffing challenges among DDS's, MS DDS still processed 63,358 claims. This is 100% of the budgeted workload. The Continuing Disability Review (CDR) workload goal was exceeded with 5,215 determinations made. This was 100.3% of the budgeted workload. MS DDS staff yielded a Production Per Work Year (PPWY) of 336. MS DDS continues to have a Cumulative Cost per Case significantly lower than the national average at \$430. The Social Security Administration allocated 15 early hires to MS DDS in the fiscal year, all of whom were successfully onboarded. Based on guidance from the Social Security Administration (SSA) we anticipate no additional hiring authority for FY 26. DDS continues to work the SSA to secure federal assistance in order to maintain workloads in lieu of hires.

#### **Office of Special Disability Programs (OSDP)**

- Provided services to nearly 4,200 individuals statewide, enabling them to remain in their homes rather than reside in long-term care facilities.
- Provided over \$60,000 cost savings per individual per year to the State of Mississippi through the administering of two Home and Community Based Programs.
- Provided 435 home modifications to individuals across the State to ensure individuals with disabilities are safe and secure in their homes.

#### **Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)**

#### **Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind (VRB)**

- Assisted over 3,400 individuals with disabilities to successfully obtain and retain employment.
- Collaborated and partnered with local school agencies to provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to over 2,700 students with disabilities while in high school.
- Partnered with and developed 12 new partnerships with Community Rehabilitation Partners to provide Pre-Employment Services Transition camps to students with disabilities.
- Continued to partner and expand the number of large businesses across our state that are interested in employing a significant percentages of their workforce with disabilities.

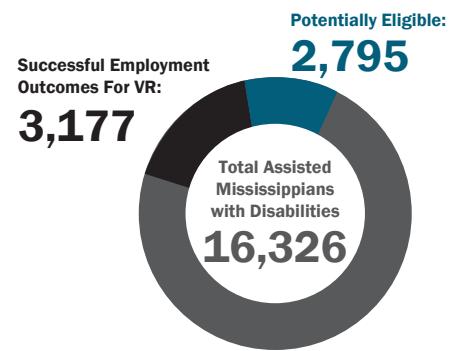
The information contained within this report will provide you with even more information about our service to the state this fiscal year. You are a key part to our successes, and we thank you for your support and very much look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

# Vocational Rehabilitation Services

## 3,177 Successful Employments

We help over 13,000 Mississippians a year overcome limitations imposed by physical or mental disabilities in order for that person to secure or maintain employment. In the SFY 2025, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services assisted 13,500 Mississippians with disabilities in receiving services including, but not limited to: counseling and guidance in adjustment to disability, vocational exploration, physical and mental restoration, job training, assistive technology, and job placement. VR also assisted 2,795 potentially eligible clients that are under the Transition Program. Individuals served by VR have a wide array of disabilities including, but not limited to: hearing loss or deafness, amputations, mental and emotional disorders, epilepsy, developmental disease and disorders, traumatic brain injuries, orthopedic impairments, residuals from cancer, and speech impairments. The total number of VR consumers employed during SFY 2025 was 3,177.



# Transition & Youth Career Services

## 222 Successful Employments

We work with potentially eligible students with disabilities ages of 14 through 21 to provide pre-employment transition services. We also work with eligible secondary school students with disabilities, their families, and school personnel, to assure there is an integrated program of education and vocational training available. We help build a foundation for a career pathway and help provide a seamless transition from school to work. In SFY 2025, the number of students receiving transition services was 2,795 potentially eligible and 3,414 Transition Youth students. 222 Transition Youth students found employment. Services may be provided to students both on and off campus or at one of the 15 AbilityWorks as a part of their school day.

# Deaf Services

## 2,079 Successful Rehabilitations

We help people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or late deafened find employment, attend education and training programs, and learn more about their community resources. The MDRS Deaf Services Program continues to promote excellence by striving to assist new RCD's (Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf) to reach the required communication skills level on the Signed Communication Proficiency Interview, an American Sign Language assessment developed by the Rochester Institute of Technology. Adequate communication skills are a prerequisite to meaningful counseling and guidance with people who are Deaf and use manual communication. This skill, along with other specialized training, has been a vital factor in the successful rehabilitation of individuals with deafness or significant hearing loss. In SFY 2025, Deaf Services were provided to 4,551 Mississippians resulting in 2,079 successful rehabilitations.

# AbilityWorks

## 1,758 Clients Served

AbilityWorks is a network of 15 community rehabilitation programs providing vocational assessment and work adjustment training for individuals with disabilities. This is possible through a wide array of contract and subcontract services provided to local business and industry. During SFY 2025, AbilityWorks served a total of 1,758 individuals with disabilities. AbilityWorks establishes cooperative agreements with local businesses to provide community based work experience, customized training and on-the-job training.

## Supported Employment

### 90 Successful Employments

We assist individuals with the most significant disabilities who require intensive support services to prepare for, secure, retain, or regain employment. Each MDRS district has a Supported Employment (SE) Team consisting of a specialized VR/SE counselor, and a Vocational Training Instructor who oversees the work of Job Trainers working on site with our consumers. During SFY 2025, 663 individuals received Supported Employment services, 90 resulting in successful employment.

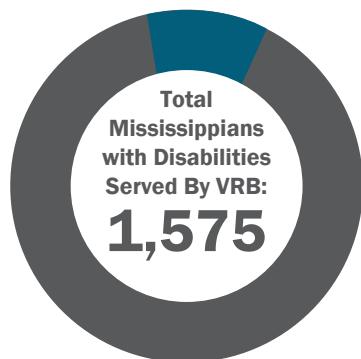
## Project SEARCH

The Project SEARCH Program is a unique, business-led, nine-month employment preparation program that takes place entirely at the workplace. Up to 12 students with disabilities experience total workplace immersion, classroom instruction, career exploration, and hands-on training through three different worksite rotations. The goal for each participant is competitive employment. To reach that goal, the program provides real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent-living skills to help young people with significant disabilities make successful transitions to productive adult life.

434 individuals with disabilities have graduated from Project SEARCH Mississippi since Project SEARCH UMMC launched in August 2018. 323 of those individuals have gained employment. The job search continues for graduates. Sixty-eight (68) interns will be participating in Project SEARCH across the state and will graduate in May, 2026.

## Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

### 301 Successful Employment Outcomes



We specialize in working with individuals who are blind or visually impaired to ensure opportunities for inclusion into the workforce, community, and home. There were 301 consumers who achieved a successful employment outcome through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind (VRB). VRB provided consumer services such as counseling and guidance in adjustment to disability, vocational exploration, orientation and mobility training, job training, and assistive technology. The total number of Mississippians with disabilities served by VRB during SFY 2025 was 1,575

# Business Enterprise Program

## 29 Successful BEP Vendors

The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) provides support for self-employment opportunities, in the food service industry, for Mississippians who are legally blind. These BEP entrepreneurs operate a variety of businesses including vending machine routes, snack bars and cafeterias on military bases. In SFY 2025, 29 individuals operated 207 successful businesses as BEP vendors.

Without Military Bases	2024	2025
Total Sales	\$1,402,268.86	\$1,677,673.34
Sales Tax Paid	\$61,418.00	\$72,542.00
Wages Paid	\$20,544.80	\$23,850.80
With Military Bases	2024	2025
Total Sales	\$17,100,430.86	\$15,664,211.34
Sales Tax Paid	\$61,418.00	\$72,542.00*
Wages Paid	\$10,077,326.80	\$10,184,931.80

\*Military based do not report their sales tax to us.

# Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind

## Provided Training to 100+ Consumers

The Addie McBryde Memorial Rehabilitation Center for the Blind provided 100+ services to 82 clients from around our great state. The center provides traditional intensive evaluation, training, and personal adjustment services on the campus of the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS. Blind and visually impaired and deaf-blind consumers can participate in orientation and mobility, home management, technology, and braille reading and writing classes to enable them to become independent. Training is offered to Day and Residential consumers who live in the dorm at the center. IN SFY 2025, the Addie McBryde Center provide training to 100+ consumers.

# Independent Living Services for the Blind

## Provided Services to 437 Consumers

We serve individuals who are legally blind and either over the age of 55 or have a significant secondary disability by providing a variety of independent living services. In SFY 2025, Independent Living Services (ILB) served over 100+ consumers through indirect services such as health fairs, vision screening, peer groups, and outreach. ILB provided direct services to 112 (47 YTD/65 Carryovers) consumers in Part B and 325 (151 YTD/174 Carryovers) in Older Blind.

# Itinerant Teacher Program

## Provided Services to 6 Consumers

Itinerant teachers work closely with VRB counselors to coordinate services, evaluate client needs, develop living-needs plans and instructional materials, and provide on-site training for consumers who are blind or visually impaired. In 2025, the Itinerant Teacher Program provided services for 6 VRB consumers.

# Mississippi Partners for Informed Choice (M-PIC)

## 512 Consumers Referred for WIPA

Community Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) provide benefits planning and assistance to SSI/SSDI beneficiaries between the ages of 14 to 64 with an employment goal. Services are coordinated through referrals from VR/VRB counselors, school counselors, The ticket to work helpline, mental health counselors, and other service entities that have direct contact with this under served population. 512 consumers were referred for Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) services in 2025.

## Mississippi EMERGE Center

### Provided Training for 10 Consumers

The Mississippi EMERGE Center, located in Long Beach, MS, serves as the state's second personal adjustment training center. The Center provides comprehensive training under sleep shades, helping clients build confidence, strengthen problem-solving abilities, and gain practical, hands-on experience. Core instruction includes Braille, technology, apartment management, orientation and mobility, and job-readiness skills.

Training is available for both Day and Residential consumers, with residential participants living in apartments rather than dormitories.

In SFY 2025, the Mississippi EMERGE Center trained 10 consumers and successfully launched Structured Discovery Training for participants in the Older Blind Program—marking a significant step forward in the state's Older Blind Outreach efforts.

#### Total Consumers Served, Employment Outcomes and Average Hourly Wage Data

SFY Year	Consumers Served	Employment Outcome	Average Hourly Wage	Training (MSG)
7/1/2024 - 12/12/2024	1,575	301	\$19.23	62
7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024	1,655	308	\$20.24	52
7/1/2022 - 6/30/2023	1,747	388	\$17.88	68
7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022	1,902	352	\$17.91	70
7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021	1,786	239	\$16.75	77
7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020	1,638	352	\$15.02	77
7/1/2018 - 6/30/2019	1,612	350	\$15.65	32
7/1/2017 - 6/30/2018	1,436	371	\$14.24	13
7/1/2016 - 6/30/2017	1,521	462	\$12.85	12
7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	1,607	486	\$12.02	5
7/1/2014 - 6/30/2015	1,785	544	\$12.13	3
7/1/2013 - 6/30/2014	1,868	585	\$11.33	1
7/1/2012 - 6/30/2013	2,027	574	\$11.43	0
Total	9,867*	5,312	\$15.08	472

\*The carryover consumers are not included in the overall total of consumers served.

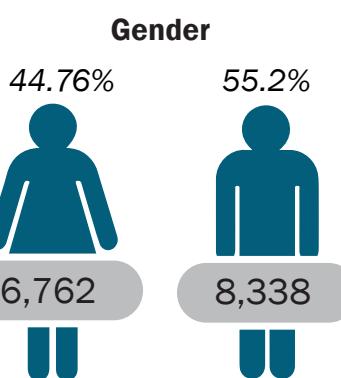
# In-Depth Look at VR & VRB

## Title One Section 110 Match Funding

2025

Section 110 Grant	\$69,805,570 (78.7%)
State Match	\$18,892,740 (21.3%)
Total Funding	\$88,698,310 (100.0%)

## Demographics of Person Served



### Age at Application

20 <	4,752
21-30	1,537
31-40	1,434
41-50	1,880
51-60	2,513
61-70	2,090
71-80	786
81-100	114

## Race

American Indian or Alaskan Native	.48%	White or Caucasian	58.61%
Asian	.59%	Hispanic/Latino	1.24%
Black or African American	37.18%	Does Not Wish to Self Identify	.34%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	.10%	No Race Selected	.03%
Multi-Racial	1.43%		

## Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) (Ages 14-21)

Number of Students with Disabilities (SWD)  
Reported **4,892**

Number of SWD who received Pre-Employment  
Transitions Services **2,751**

## Measurable Skill Gain (All Ages)

Measurable Skills Gains (MSG) Rate **80.1%**  
Total Participants who earned MSGs **2,171**  
Total MSGs earned **2,313**

## MSGs Earned by Type:

- Educational Functional Level (EFL) **0**
- Secondary School Diploma or Equivalent **467**
- Secondary or Postsecondary Transcript/Report Card **1,680**
- Training Milestone **123**
- Skills Progression **43**

# In-Depth Look at VR & VRB

## Status of Persons Rehabilitated

### Employment in Integrated Settings

Management Occupations	398
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	343
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	225
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	218
Skilled Craft	196
Sales & Related Occupations	167
Production Occupations	160
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	145
Building and Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	144
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	134
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	133
Personal Care and Service Occupations	127
Construction and Extraction Occupations	118
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	112
Community and Social Service Occupations	110
Professional	100
Service Worker	92
Protective Service Occupations	90
Sales	85
Healthcare Support Occupations	73
Secretarial/Office/Clerical	43
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	42
Operative	40
Laborer	37
Legal Occupations	36
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	27
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	23
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	22
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	19
Technical/Paraprofessional	13
RSA Special Occupations	3
Military Specific Occupations	2
Clerical and Administrative Support	1

### Employment Status of Persons Rehabilitated



**3,478**

# In-Depth Look at VR & VRB

## Persons Served by Primary Disability

Cognitive and Mental	5,679
Hearing Loss, Communicative	4,203
General Physical	1,770
Legally Blind, Other Visual	1,459
Orthopedic	1,279
Application Status (No Disability Selected)	420
Deafness	174
Respiratory	62
Blindness	60
TOTAL	15,106

## Clients Served - 2025

Clients Served		15,106
Clients Potentially Eligible		2,795
Individualized Plans for Employment Written		4,642
Successfully Employed		3,478

# Business Relations

## 473 Referrals

The MDRS Office of Business Relations (OBR) is committed to being a valuable resource for any business. During FY 2025, MDRS Business Relations representatives helped support hundreds of employers across the state in sourcing, hiring and retaining qualified candidates with disabilities. Visit [mdrs.ms.gov](http://mdrs.ms.gov) to find a MDRS Business Relations representative in your area.

### Top 5 Job Placement Business Sectors (BR):

All Other Food Service Workers	6.34%
Production Workers, All Other	5.63%
Healthcare Support Occupations (Transition-Youth only)	4.93%
Janitor	4.23%
Retail Stocker	2.11%

### Top 5 Disabilities served by BR:

Cognitive impairments	35.64%
Psychosocial impairments	22.05%
Other mental impairments	22.05%
Other physical impairments not listed elsewhere	5.69%
Mobility Orthopedic/Neurological Impairments	3.74%

### Top 5 Business Contact Types (BR):

In-Person Cold Calls	52.61%
Email	14.49%
Phone	14.48%
In-Person Scheduled	14.46%
Social Org Contact	1.92%

### Top 5 Employer Service Delivery (BR):

Identified Job Openings/Basic Minimum Requirements	26.57%
Explain MDRS Services/On-going Business Services	25.85%
Comm Based/Internship promotion, search, placement	17.26%
On-going Business Services	12.56%
Engaged in Strategic Planning/Economic Development	4.41%

### Top 5 Referral Source (BR):

VR Adult	46.46%
VR Transition	23.86%
SE Transition	8.18%
SE Project SEARCH	8.04%
SE	6.24%

# Assistive Technology

## 1,124 Clients Served

Assistive Technology (AT) is defined as the application of technology to alleviate barriers that interfere with the lives of individuals with disabilities. It is intended to help the individual maintain or enhance his or her ability to function personally, socially and/or vocationally. MDRS Rehabilitation Engineers and Rehabilitation Technologists provide consultations on all AT referrals. The Rehabilitation Technologists and Specialists perform initial evaluations and assessments, set up AT equipment, provide follow-up evaluations, design and fabricate original items and provide specifications and final inspections for AT services. The Assistive Technology division staff evaluates MDRS clients for the most appropriate assistive technology, thus enabling them to return to work and/or live independently. During the SFY 2025, the Assistive Technology division served a total of 1,124 individuals with disabilities.

This information only reports clients who were assigned to the Assistive Technology division during SFY 2025 and does not reflect clients who continue to be served from previous fiscal year(s).

# Special Disability Programs

## 4,147 Independent Living Services Provided

We specialize in assisting individuals with the most severe physical disabilities to remain active in their homes and communities. Services are provided based on need as determined by functional assessment and are provided through an individualized plan of services and supports. The Office of Special Disability Programs (OSDP) offers services that include, but are not limited to: case management, attendant care, durable medical equipment and specialized medical supplies, environmental accessibility accommodations and vehicle modifications, respite care, and transition services. During the SFY 2025, OSDP provided independent living services for 4,147 individuals with significant (severe) disabilities. OSDP administers the Traumatic Brain Injury/Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund. A full copy of that report can be found at [www.mdrs.ms.gov](http://www.mdrs.ms.gov).

# Disability Determination Services

## 63,358 Claims Processed

We operate in a partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to determine the medical eligibility of individuals to receive benefits from Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income as directed by federal guidelines from SSA. This office handles disability claims from all 23 SSA offices in Mississippi.

# In-Depth Look at DDS & OSDP

## Office of Disability Determination Services

Claims Processed	63,358
Average Processing Time	T2-279 days/T16-320 days
Average Cost per Case	\$413.20
Decisional Accuracy Rate	96.2%

T2 benefits are based on the amount of years a person has worked

T16 benefits are based on a person's income and assets.

## Office of Special Disability Programs

	Number Served
Independent Living Waiver	2,753
TBI/SCI Trust Fund	53
TBI/SCI Waiver	812

## Proof of Performance

### Office of Disability Determination Services

#### Processing Time

#### Cost Per Case

#### Production Per Work Year

Year	National Average	Mississippi Average
2017	83/85 Days	81/74 Days
2018	86/90 Days	84/71 Days
2019	87/94 Days	81/73 Days
2020	110/120 Days	105/105 Days
2021	122/134 Days	140/129 Days
2022	144/157 Days	194/193 Days
2023	158/178 Days	280/288 Days
2024	168/202 Days	297/353 Days
2025	226/235 Days	279/320 Days

Year	National Average	Mississippi Average
2017	\$498	\$313
2018	\$542	\$378
2019	\$537	\$367
2020	\$599	\$425
2021	\$645	\$477
2022	\$741	\$461
2023	\$743	\$613
2024	\$777	\$619
2025	\$716	\$430

Year	National Average	Mississippi Average
2017	306	329
2018	303	306
2019	302	302
2020	255	268
2021	238	215
2022	230	233
2023	240	217
2024	246	257
2025	276	336

## Office of Special Disability Programs

Year	Served	Mississippi Average
2018	3,270	\$156,960,081
2019	3,717	\$140,175,338
2020	3,706	\$148,593,508
2021	3,615	\$143,598,487
2022	3,723	\$166,479,730
2023	3,771	\$222,758,806
2024	3,736	\$248,148,049
2025	3,565	\$250,211,382

\* As of 6/30/25

\* Figures shown above are based on the Division of Medicaid cost reports for the Independent Living Waiver and the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver. • OSDP numbers are reported from the State Fiscal Year.

# Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## 132 Registered Interpreters for Mississippi

The Office on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) is a division of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS). ODHH provides a wide range of services to support the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community, as well as individuals and organizations seeking to increase their awareness and understanding of related topics. Serving all 82 counties in Mississippi, ODHH conducts outreach and collaborates with state agencies, organizations, and community partners to promote effective communication and improve services for people who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

ODHH strives to promote full inclusion of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals across Mississippi through four key missions: Public Awareness, Community Outreach, Communication Services, and Advocacy. A major part of this mission involves registering interpreters—both those residing in Mississippi and those from out of state who wish to work here—as required by state legislation for employment and compensation purposes.

Recently, ODHH transitioned management of its standalone website to the MDRS Communication Department, which now maintains ODHH's webpage on the main MDRS website. Currently, there are approximately 132 registered interpreters in Mississippi. The interpreter registration process has undergone significant changes as MDRS, ODHH, and community partners—including Deaf individuals and interpreters—agreed to take a new approach to interpreter testing. This change impacted registration numbers, particularly with a noticeable increase in Provisional Registrations.

Here is the current data on Registrants:

Regular: 43

Provisional: 60

Student: 8

Out of State: 21

Prior to this year, the number of Regular Registered Interpreters was higher—approximately 93. We anticipate an increase in that number once we finalize our partnership with Arkansas's Quality Assurance Screening Test (QAST) program, which will serve Mississippi's interpreters and interpreter candidates.

ODHH also provides specialized training on Deaf Sensitivity, Deaf Awareness, and related topics. To communicate effectively with communities across Mississippi, ODHH uses multiple communication methods, including email, voice and mobile phones, videophones, fax, our website ([www.odhh.org](http://www.odhh.org)), event booths, business cards, workshops, trainings, in-person and virtual meetings (via Zoom and Microsoft Teams), and smart boards—among many others.

In addition, ODHH has established strong partnerships with organizations such as the National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NASADHH), Mississippi Association of the Deaf, Mississippi Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Humana Insurance, 911 Dispatch Centers, Mississippi School for the Deaf and Blind, Arkansas QAST, the MDRS Communication Department, and numerous other businesses and agencies. Together, these collaborations promote greater independence and equal access for individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing across Mississippi.

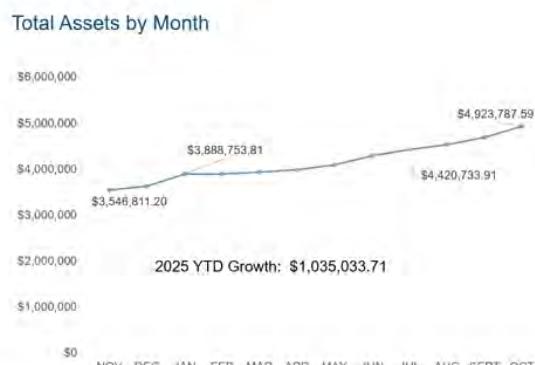


# The Mississippi ABLE Program

The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) of 2014 allows individuals with disabilities to save money in a tax-advantaged account that may be used for qualified disability related expenses while keeping eligibility for federal public benefits.

The Mississippi ABLE Act is codified in Miss. Code Ann. 43-28-1 et. seq. The legislation established an ABLE Board which works with the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services to administer the program. The program launched in Mississippi in June of 2019.

## Total Assets by Month



## New Accounts by Month



## Accounts by Custodian and Authorized Individual Type (as of 10/31/2025)

Account Custodian Type	Open Accounts	Funded Accounts	Total Assets
Self	217	208	\$1,496,705.55
Authorized Individual with an adult Account Owner	194	190	\$2,134,901.70
Authorized Individual with a minor Account Owner	100	98	\$1,148,669.62
Account Owner/Self with appointed Authorized Individual	18	18	\$143,510.72

Authorized Individual Type	Open Accounts	Funded Accounts	Total Assets
None	329	317	\$3,282,892.88
Parent	73	72	\$532,843.79
SSA Appointed Representative Payee	64	62	\$414,715.96
Conservator	31	31	\$188,777.87
Power of Attorney	14	14	\$174,757.61
Legal Guardian	9	9	\$218,551.51
Sibling	5	5	\$39,663.30
Grandparent	4	4	\$71,584.65

To learn more about ABLE or sign up visit [mississippiable.com](http://mississippiable.com).  
To order brochures or schedule a presentation email [msableinfo@mdrs.ms.gov](mailto:msableinfo@mdrs.ms.gov).

To contact customer service call 888-609-3469

# PROM

Please Return On Monday<sup>SM</sup>

PROM is a public awareness campaign created by the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services in 2018 in partnership with the Mississippi Highway Patrol. The campaign encourages prom-bound students to understand the “full-circle” of consequences when choosing to drink and drive, text and drive, and/or not buckle up.

In SFY 2025, MDRS visited 71 schools across the state, reaching more than 12,682 students. Of those, 18 were virtual presentations conducted by MDRS in partnership with MHP and school administrators, while 1 school chose to show a video presentation facilitated by school staff.



# Districts & Office Locations

## District I

51 County Road 166  
Oxford, MS 38655  
VR: (662) 234-3171  
VRB: (662) 234-6092  
OSDP: (662) 234-5744

## District II

2620 Traceland Drive  
Tupelo, MS 38801  
VR: (662) 842-1010  
OSDP: (662) 840-9947

615-A Pegram Drive  
Tupelo, MS 38801  
VRB: (662) 844-5830

## District III

104 Professional Plaza  
Greenwood, MS 38930  
VR: (662) 453-6172  
VRB: (662) 455-1432  
OSDP: (662) 477-1888

## District IV

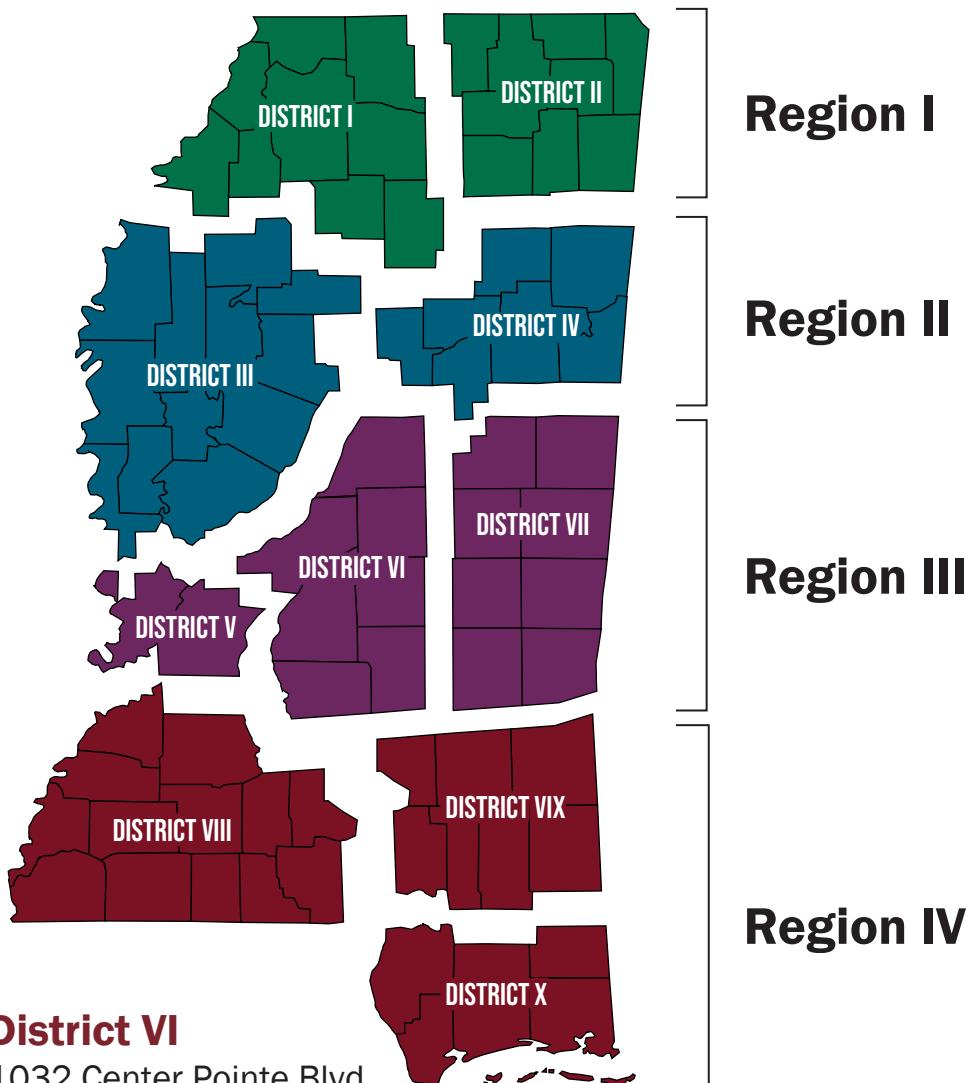
317 Industrial Park Road  
Starkville, MS 39759  
VR: (662) 456-2116  
OSDP: (662) 324-1881

48 Datco Industrial Drive  
Columbus, MS 39702  
VRB: (662) 328-8807

## District V

3895 Beasley Road  
Jackson, MS 39213  
VR: (601) 898-7004  
OSDP: (601) 898-7034

2550 Peachtree Street  
Jackson, MS 39296  
VRB: (601) 987-7403



## District VI

1032 Center Pointe Blvd  
Suite A  
Pearl, MS 39208  
VR: (601) 709-5631  
VRB: (601) 709-5625  
OSDP: (601) 709-5657

## District VII

1003 College Drive  
Meridian, MS 39307  
VR: (601) 483-3872  
VRB: (601) 483-5391  
OSDP: (601) 482-1594

## District VIII

1221 Parkland Road  
McComb, MS 39648  
VR: (601) 249-4627  
VRB: (601) 684-3392  
OSDP: (601) 249-4140

## District IX

17 J M Tatum Industrial Drive  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
VR: (601) 545-5619  
VRB: (601) 545-5613

18 J M Tatum Industrial Drive  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
OSDP: (601) 545-5644

## District X

13486 Fastway Lane  
Gulfport, MS 39503  
VR: (228) 575-3789  
VRB: (228) 575-3788  
OSDP: (228) 575-3786



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
REHABILITATION SERVICES

*Opportunities for Independence*

# 2025 Annual Report



Your perspective is extremely valuable,  
and we greatly appreciate any and all feedback!  
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