

If you are a person who is blind or visually impaired and need help securing employment, Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind may be for you. An individual who is blind or visually impaired faces unique challenges. Our individualized support services are designed to enhance employment by helping develop skills to enter a profession, find a job, or even advance your career.

## Services

- Guidance and counseling
- Adjustment to blindness training
- Vocational assessments
- Training opportunities
- Job placement and follow-up
- Direct one-on-one personalized services

If you have any questions or believe you may be eligible for services, please contact your local office:

**Administrative Offices**  
1281 Hwy. 51 North  
Madison, MS 39110  
601.853.5100  
1.800.443.1000

**District I**  
51 County Road 166  
Oxford, MS 38655  
662.234.6092

**District II**  
615-A Pegram Drive  
Tupelo, MS 38801  
662.844.5830

**District III**  
104 Professional Plaza  
Greenwood, MS 38930  
662.455.1432

**District IV**  
48 Datco Industrial Dr.  
Columbus, MS  
662.328.8807

**District V**  
2550 Peachtree Street  
Jackson, MS 39296  
601.987.7403

**District VI**  
1032 Center Pointe Blvd.,  
Suite A  
Pearl, MS 39208  
601.709.5625

**District VII**  
1003 College Drive  
Meridian, MS 39307  
601.483.5391

**District VIII**  
1221 Parklane Road  
McComb, MS 39648  
601.684.3392

**District IX**  
17 John Merle Tatum  
Industrial Drive  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
601.545.5613

**District X**  
13486 Fastway Lane  
Gulfport, MS 39503  
228.575.3788

**Chris Howard, Executive Director**  
Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services  
1281 Highway 51 North Madison, MS 39110  
1-800-443-1000 • [mdrs.ms.gov](http://mdrs.ms.gov)

*The Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*  
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# VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

For Individuals Who Are Blind  
or Visually Impaired



*Further Your Career*



*Get Help to Keep Your Job*



*Can't Work Right Now? We Can Help*

**MDRS**  
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF  
REHABILITATION SERVICES

[www.mdrs.ms.gov](http://www.mdrs.ms.gov)

## The Addie McBryde Center

At the Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center, we provide a wide array of specialized services to persons who are blind or visually impaired which will enable them to adjust to vision loss and work and live independently.

This one-on-one training is customized to meet the unique needs of each individual. The average duration of the training is 3 to 6 months with some consumers training in a residential setting.



### Services include

- Travel Training
- Vision Utilization Training
- Diabetic Counseling
- Computer Literacy and Access Technology
- Braille Instruction
- Daily Living Skills
- Coping Strategies for Adjusting to Vision Loss
- Adaptive Homemaking Strategies
- And More....

## Business Enterprise Program

Our Mississippi Business Enterprise Program offers legally blind individuals an opportunity to become self-employed businesspersons in a growing food service operation that combines the benefits and the resources of both the public and private sectors.

This program is responsible for providing vending services on properties owned or leased by federal, state, or local government entities.

*If you are a prospective customer in need of vending or other food services, contact our BEP Manager for more information regarding the services we offer at 601.853.5280.*

## MS Partners for Informed Choice

MS Partners for Informed Choice (MPIC) is a service funded by the Social Security Administration (SSA) as part of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. MPIC is authorized to serve all SSA beneficiaries with disabilities, including transition-to-work aged youth, providing benefits planning and assistance services on request or as resources permit. There are more than 100 grantees in the United States.

The programs employ certified Community Work Incentive Coordinators (CWICs) and each serves a specific region of the state.

CWICs provide confidential services to people with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). CWICs educate beneficiaries on how employment will affect their public benefits such as SSI, SSDI, Medicare, Medicaid, subsidized housing and food stamps.

## Independent Living for the Older Blind Program

If you cannot return to work or have retired, the Independent Living for the Blind program may be able to help. Independent Living Counselors are available to offer assistance to:

Legally blind individuals over 55 years olds, and

Legally blind individuals under 55 years old with at least one other disabling condition.



### Services include

- Instruction in alternative ways to perform tasks affected by vision loss
- Teach alternative home organization techniques
- Help you safely and effectively manage your medications
- Give you referrals for other services, such as talking books and free directory services
- Help connect with community activities
- Provide low tech adaptive aids
- Connect you with a vision loss support group