

# DEAFBLIND SERVICES



Serving individuals who are both deaf and blind

## DeafBlind Services

Michigan Bureau of Services for Blind Persons  
702 West Kalamazoo St, 1st Floor Lansing MI 48909

## WHO WE SERVE

**CRITERIA:** The Bureau of Services for Blind Persons provides DeafBlind services statewide to all BSBP program eligible participants.

### DEFINITIONS:

**Legally Blind:** Central acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with corrections, or the field of vision is restricted to 20 degrees or less.

**Exception to Legal Blindness:** A visual acuity with best correction 20/100 or worse in the better eye with a prognosis of rapid deterioration or visual fields that subtend an angle of less than 40 degrees in each eye with a prognosis of rapid deterioration.

**Moderate:** An individual with chronic hearing impairment so severe that most speech cannot be understood with optimum amplification or a progressive hearing loss with a prognosis leading to this condition.

**Profound:** An individual who has a moderate hearing impairment as defined above that causes extreme difficulty in attaining independence in daily life activities, achieving psychosocial adjustment, or obtaining a vocation.

### CONTACT:

800-292-4200 (voice, toll-free)  
Deafblind@Michigan.gov  
Michigan.gov/BSBP

## WHO WE ARE

The Michigan Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) provides DeafBlind services that support vocational rehabilitation, transition services for high school students and independent living consultations to customers who are legally blind and have moderate to profound hearing loss.

## OUR SERVICES

DeafBlind individuals may contact BSBP directly for services or be referred by family members, friends, physicians, employers, schools or other influencers.

### + Training

- Vocational training
- Sign Language
- Orientation and mobility
- Daily living activities
- Assistive technology

### + Transition services and college accommodations

### + Consultation

### + Job Placement

### + In-service presentations to:

- Group homes
- Community rehabilitation facilities
- Community service organizations
- Families
- Day programs

## EMPLOYMENT

DeafBlind individuals have a number of great career opportunities available to them in a variety of fields including but not limited to health care, business, hospitality, education and information technology. DeafBlind Michiganders have found success in the following careers:

Computer programmer • Teacher Factory worker • Food service worker  
Graphic designer • Laundry worker • Healthcare worker • Phlebotomist  
IRS tax examiner • Social worker • Hotel housekeeper • Retail worker  
Rehabilitation counselor • Florist

BSBP provides services to employers that include creating a diverse and inclusive workforce along with assisting employers with DeafBlind employees to help them achieve success after vision and hearing loss. Specifically assisting the employer and employees with identifying appropriate work place accommodations and natural supports to enhance success and productivity in the work setting.