



Michigan Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

What are Pre-ETS?

Pre-ETS programming is available to students aged 14–26 with a documented disability who are enrolled in high school or post-secondary education/training. The goal of Pre-ETS is to help students with disabilities explore, increase awareness, and prepare for post-secondary employment and education options through five core services.

Pre-ETS 5 Core Services



Job Exploration Counseling

Seminars or workshops on careers and required skills, career ladders and interest inventory.



Workplace Readiness Training

Development of transferable work skills which may include resume writing, interview skills, professionalism, assistive technology and independent living training.



Work-based Learning Experiences

Opportunities to complete job shadows, informational interviews, internships and paid or unpaid work experiences.



Counseling in Post-secondary Education or Training

Counseling and guidance about options upon exiting high school which may include academic or vocational programs.



Self-Advocacy

Development of individual advocacy skills and rights and responsibilities.

BSBP Pre-ETS programming is available throughout Michigan. To learn more, contact your local BSBP office, speak with your school's Teacher Consultant for the Visually Impaired (TCVI), or visit our website at:

Michigan.gov/BSBP



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR & ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY



Phone: 1-800-292-4200

BSBP will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs, or disability. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to request any assistance you need with reading, writing, or hearing by contacting your local BSBP office.

The programs described in this brochure are funded as follows: Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) funded 78.7% through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) and 21.3% through State funding; Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) funded 90% through a grant from the USDOE and 10% through State funding; Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) funded 100 percent through the USDOE VR grant. For the federal fiscal year 2022, federal grant funds were as follows: VR \$17,993,738; Pre-ETS reserve included in VR \$2,699,061; ILOB \$988,139.

BSBP's Mission

The mission of the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons is to provide opportunities to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to achieve employment, and/or achieve maximum and meaningful independence in life through comprehensive rehabilitative services.



Contact BSBP

Michigan Bureau of Services
for Blind Persons;
Michigan Department of Labor
and Economic Opportunity

✉ P.O. Box 30652
Lansing, MI 48909

☎ 1-800-292-4200
(voice, toll free)

🌐 Michigan.gov/BSBP

The Youth Low Vision program is funded by state general fund dollars. Based on available funds, reasonable costs will be paid by the Youth Low Vision Program for wearable devices recommended by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. Limits may be imposed on the number of items and the cost of items. It is expected that the individual's private or public health/vision insurance, if available, will be used to cover costs before Youth Low Vision Program funds are used.

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Youth Low Vision Program

Available from the
Michigan Bureau
of Services for
Blind Persons

The BSBP logo, which includes a stylized map of Michigan behind the text 'bsbp Bureau of Services for Blind Persons'.
bsbp
Bureau of Services
for Blind Persons



Michigan.gov/BSBP

BSBP provides youth low vision services to individuals from birth through age 13 with low vision assessments and wearable devices. Each year, the Bureau typically provides:



250+
specialized evaluations

— and —






350+
wearable devices

How to Access YLV Services

Youth Low Vision (YLV) Services are administered through the Intermediate School District (ISD), where your child is registered to attend school. To access these services, contact your local teacher consultant for the visually impaired (TCVI) by calling your Intermediate School District office or your child's school. You may also contact the Michigan Bureau of Services for Blind Persons at 1-800-292-4200 and ask for assistance in accessing the Youth Low Vision Program.

Program Eligibility

The YLV Program can help provide low vision assessments and wearable devices such as telescopic and microscopic glasses, complex contact lenses, light-filtering eyewear, prescription sports goggles, bifocals, and prismatic lenses. Eligibility requires the child to be diagnosed with:

-  an acuity of 20/70 or less in the better eye with the best correction or;
-  have a visual field of 40 degrees or less in the better eye with a documented deteriorating condition.
-  Youth Low Vision services are provided biennially.

Referrals & Requests for Services

New referrals to the YLV Program must come with an eye report or a letter, dated no more than two years from the date of application, from either an ophthalmologist or optometrist. The medical provider should confirm program-specified eligibility requirements with diagnosis and prognosis as documentation. Parents or guardians must complete and sign a YLV Request for Services form and provide documentation of visual impairment.

The YLV Program focuses primarily on currently enrolled students or those participating in a qualified educational program (including home school, alternative school, and registered online school programs) with fully utilizing their residual vision in the classroom and other activities with their peers through coordination with the Intermediate School District (ISD) and Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP).





CONTACT

Contact your local BSBP VR Counselor or Blind Rehabilitation Teacher. Call 1-800-292-4200 to get started, or visit Michigan.gov/BSBP.

Students may be eligible for additional services through BSBP's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. Information on the VR program can be obtained by contacting your BSBP counselor or local BSBP office.

Bureau of Services for Blind Persons

Toll Free: 1-800-292-4200

Detroit
313-456-1646

Escanaba
906-786-8602

Flint
810-760-2030

Gaylord
989-732-2448

Grand Rapids
616-356-0180

Kalamazoo
269-337-3875

Lansing
517-241-1086



PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRANSITION SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

MICHIGAN BUREAU OF SERVICES
FOR BLIND PERSONS (BSBP)

BSBP will provide Pre-Employment Transition Services to students who meet the following criteria:

- The student has a vision impairment.
- The student is age 14-26.
- The student is currently enrolled in a secondary, post-secondary or other recognized education program.

Pre-ETS services are available statewide to all students in need of services regardless of whether or not a student has applied for VR services. Pre-ETS services may begin once a student requests or is recommended for one or more service and documentation of a disability is provided. These services can be provided in a group setting or on an individual basis.

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS Services) are provided in collaboration with local educational agencies and community partners. Pre-ETS services are designed to be an early start at job exploration and will assist students with identifying career interests to be further explored through additional VR services.

Pre-ETS programming is available to students throughout Michigan. To learn more, contact your local BSBP office, speak with your school's Teacher Consultant for the Visually Impaired (TCVI), or visit our website at: Michigan.gov/BSBP

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