Maryland Business Enterprise for the Blind (MDBEP) provides opportunities for indivduals who are legally blind to operate retail concession, gift or food service businesses in public facilities. MDBEP operates under the Randolph-Sheppard Act.

MDBEP is continually seeking qualified individuals who are blind, and who have the desire and drive to become small business entrepreneurs.

To be eligible for the Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Training Program a candidate must:

* Be a legally blind U. S. Citizen
* Education: Minimum of high school diploma or GED equivalent.
* Math Skills: Minimum 7th grade math level
* Reading skills: Minimum of 8th grade reading level
* Have an aptitude for business management
* Receive a referral and recommendation from the Division of Rehabilitation Service, Office of Blindness and Vision Services (OBVS ) counselor
* Communication Skills
* Mobility
* Grooming
* Employment background and references
* Interpersonal Skills
* Ability to use required equipment
* Job Shadowing
* Training Curriculum

If you qualify and have the desire to become and entrepreneur in the food and retail service industry, we can provide;

* Required training to become a BEP licensee for operation and managing a food and retail facility
* The essential pieces of equipment and operating cash for the operation of a BEP facility
* Assistance to the new operator in opening up the facility
* Ongoing management assistance and guidance.