**Older Individuals Who are Blind**

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[www.dor.ca.gov/SSD/Older-Individuals-Who-R-Blind.html](http://www.dor.ca.gov/SSD/Older-Individuals-Who-R-Blind.html)

**Program Overview**

California has one of the largest concentrations of older blind persons in the country. As a result, the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) receives annual federal funding under the Rehabilitation Act to provide services and resources to individuals who are age 55 and older and are blind or visually impaired to enable them to remain as independent as possible.

The DOR administers grants, which provide core services for unserved and underserved older visually impaired individuals. These grants, commonly referred to as the Older Individuals who are Blind grants, are sub-granted by the DOR to programs that have the capacity to provide independent living and adjustment services that increases their ability to care for their individual needs.

**Services**

* Orientation & Mobility
* Adaptive Equipment/Assistive Technology
* Transportation
* Activities of Daily Living, or Independent Living Skills
* Adjustment Counseling
* Self-Advocacy
* Low Vision Training
* Other needed services to enhance participation in and integration with the larger community

**Facts**

* Approximately $3.2 million contracted annually to 17 agencies.
* 5,874 individuals received services in Federal Fiscal Year 10-11. Over 50% of these consumers were over 80 years of age.

Promoting Independence and Dignity