

seeing possibilities

...and creating independence

NYSCB

Medical Professionals | Facts

Having to inform a patient that he or she is legally blind is difficult. As a medical practitioner, you can provide help and hope even in the midst of this life-changing diagnosis by referring your patient to the New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB), the State vocational rehabilitation agency that helps individuals who are blind or visually impaired to live independent lives.

Eligibility

NYSCB provides services to legally blind people of all ages in New York State with a visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better or stronger eye with best correction, or a restricted field of vision of 20 degrees or less in the better or stronger eye.

What We Do

NYSCB's Vision Rehabilitation Specialists can provide travel and living skills training to help individuals maintain independence at home, at work and in the community. Services may include:

- Counseling, assessment and casework services
- Mobility instruction and rehabilitation teaching
- Low vision devices and assistive technology plus training on how to use them

For those currently employed or seeking employment, NYSCB Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors work to identify and meet training needs for job success and provide assistance throughout the job search and hiring process.

Our expert staff works with a network of non-profit groups, rehabilitation agencies and private vendors to stay informed on the latest advances for workplace and home technology and training for blind and visually impaired people. All services are provided at no cost to your patient.

For Those With Visual Impairments Who Are Not Legally Blind

People with severe progressive visual impairments who are not yet legally blind may qualify for the Job Save Program. Program staff recommends workplace enhancements and training to help patients retain employment and adapt to their impairments. NYSCB can also assist employers in making needed accommodations.

To Refer A Patient To NYSCB

- Provide your patient with contact information for NYSCB.
- For patients with a diagnosis of legal blindness, make the required notification to the New York State Register of the Blind.

Please note: Patients must contact NYSCB to obtain services. Your notification is required, but does not automatically trigger NYSCB contact. It is just the first step.

How To Reach NYSCB

1-866-871-3000 or www.visionloss.ny.gov

Albany

40 N. Pearl St., 10th Fl., Ste. D
Albany, NY 12243
(518) 473-1675

Mailing Address

52 Washington St.
Rensselaer, NY 12144

Buffalo

295 Main St., Rm. 590
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 847-3516

Harlem

163 West 125th St., Rm. 209
New York, NY 10027
(212) 961-4440

Hempstead

50 Clinton St., Ste. 208
Hempstead, NY 11550
(516) 564-4311

New York City

80 Maiden Lane, 23rd Fl.
New York, NY 10038
(212) 825-5710

Rochester (Outstation)

259 Monroe Ave., Rm. 303
Rochester, NY 14607
(585) 238-8110

Syracuse

100 S. Salina St., Ste. 105
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 423-5417

White Plains

445 Hamilton Ave., Rm. 503
White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 993-5370



NYSCB is a division of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.



Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Gladys Carrión, Commissioner

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