



# Independent Living Older Blind Program

**Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)** is the state agency that empowers Ohioans with disabilities through employment, disability determination, and independence.

The Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) program by OOD empowers seniors who are blind or have low vision to maintain their independence. It equips them with essential skills and tools to perform daily tasks, navigate their surroundings confidently, and manage daily activities on their own. ILOB significantly contributes to the well-being and independence of seniors who are blind or have low vision, allowing them to live fulfilling lives and remain active in their communities while preventing costly institutional care.

**Professionally trained staff with OOD or its network of providers offer services that include:**

- Orientation and mobility training to help older individuals who are blind or have low vision travel independently, safely, and confidently in various environments.
- Skills training in braille, handwriting, keyboarding, or other communication methods.
- Access to communication aids like large print, voice recorders, and digital apps to facilitate reading print.
- Life skills training such as meal preparation, identifying currency, selecting clothing, managing time, and maintaining a household.
- Provision of low vision aids and services, including magnifiers for reading and mobility tasks.
- Family and individual counseling services to help seniors who are blind or have low vision emotionally adjust to vision loss and integrate into the community.

**Eligibility** for OOD's ILOB program requires meeting three criteria:

- Are age 55 or older
- Legally or totally blind, which is impacting daily activities
- Feasible independent living goals with appropriate services

Get started at [OODWorks.com](https://OODWorks.com) or call our main line at 800-282-4536 and ask to speak to someone with ILOB. You can also email [ILProgram@ood.ohio.gov](mailto:ILProgram@ood.ohio.gov).



[OODWorks.com](https://OODWorks.com)



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