

OHIO REHABILITATION COMMISSION SERVICES BUREAU OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION (BVR)

Address For BVR Benefits:

8050 Beckett Center Dr., Suite 216
West Chester, Ohio 45069
1-800-686-9506 or 513-942-8909

7162 Reading Rd., Suite 800
Cincinnati, Oh. 45237
513-821-1484

Purpose of BVR (Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation):

To help individuals who have a physical, mental or emotional disability get and keep a job.

Eligibility:

Referrals to BVR are usually made 2 years before the student graduates.

To apply you

- must have a physical or mental disability that creates a large barrier to getting a job.
- can benefit from vocational rehabilitation services in terms of employment.
- require services to prepare for, secure, keep, or regain employment.
- will be eligible if you are receiving SSI or SSDI because you are an individual with a disability.

Services:

An Individual Plan for Employment will be developed which will list the services needed. They can include:

- continuing education or specialized training, including books and supplies.
- tools and equipment, including assistive technology or adaptive devices/low vision aids that enable you to work.
- on-the-job training.
- job placement and follow-up.
- vocational assessment and interest surveys.

Application Process and Timeline:

Anyone can call 1-800-686-9506 to make a referral. Usually BVR becomes involved 1 year before graduation. An Individualized Work Rehabilitation Plan will be developed. The final result of services is a job. More information about BVR is available online at www.rsc.ohio.gov.

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF MENTAL RETARDATION AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (BCMRDD)

Address For BCMRDD Benefits:

4418 B Lewis Street
Middletown, Ohio 45044
420-2570

Purpose of BCMRDD Benefits

BCMRDD helps the individual to successfully live, work and learn in the community.

Eligibility:

To apply for services (at age 16 as an adult) you must

- Have a physical, mental or sensory impairment.
- Is likely to continue indefinitely.
- Results in substantial functional limitations in at least areas (as defined through the Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument called the OEDI).
- Developmental Disabilities may include traumatic brain injury, seizure disorders, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and orthopedic impairments.

Services:

- Family resource money which can provide respite care and adaptive equipment.
- Family Focus can provide behavioral support, skill training and some counseling services.
- Support Coordination or case management.
- Sheltered workshop, supported living.
- Community employment and job coaching services.
- Eligibility staff can also attend IEP meetings and follow the high school student to smooth the transition from school to the community.
- Recreation and leisure activities.

Application Process and Timeline:

Call 420-2570 for information or to begin the referral/eligibility process. You do not have to use services immediately after you become eligible. However, in times of crisis, services can be provided very quickly if your eligibility has already been completed. Eligibility takes less than 90 days as long as the proper paperwork and records are available. More information about BCMRDD can be found on their web site at www.butlermrrdd.org.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Address For SSI Benefits:

3860 Towne Blvd.
Franklin, Ohio 45005
1-800-772-1213

Purpose of SSI (Supplemental Security Income):

Provides supplemental income to students with significant disabilities who are not working or who are very low wage earners. Each eligible student is entitled to receive monthly checks. If a student is eligible for SSI, they may also be eligible for Food Stamps or Medicaid. However, the student will need to apply for each program separately.

Eligibility:

To apply as an adult at age 18 for SSI you must:

- Have a physical or mental disability.
- At age 18, eligibility is based on the student's income and resources (not the parent's income).
- This disability must keep you from earning a living wage for at least a year.
- You may not have financial resources or income over a certain dollar amount.

Services:

- Monthly cash benefits
- Likely eligible for Medicaid (medical card)
- Assistance with filing SSI and referrals to other services
- Work Incentive Programs (such as PASS, SEIE)

Application Process and Timeline:

Call 1-800-772-1213 for information or to make an appointment. Apply for SSI a month before your son or daughter's 18th birthday. The application usually takes 2–4 months. If you are turned down for benefits, please file an appeal within 60 days. Further help with an appeal can be provided through Legal Aide (1-800-582-2682) or other legal organizations. More information about SSI is available online at www.ssa.gov/work.