

HB 5003 BUDGET REPORT and MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Reviewed By: MaryMichelle Sosne, Legislative Fiscal Office

**Commission for the Blind
2025-27**

PRELIMINARY

Budget Summary*

	2023-25 Legislatively Approved Budget ⁽¹⁾	2025-27 Current Service Level	2025-27 Committee Recommendation	Committee Change from 2023-25 Leg. Approved	
				\$ Change	% Change
General Fund	\$ 8,429,871	\$ 8,884,498	\$ 9,497,634	\$ 1,067,763	12.7%
Other Funds Limited	\$ 1,140,387	\$ 1,148,422	\$ 1,148,422	\$ 8,035	0.7%
Federal Funds Limited	\$ 19,299,483	\$ 21,905,414	\$ 22,135,700	\$ 2,836,217	14.7%
Total	\$ 28,869,741	\$ 31,938,334	\$ 32,781,756	\$ 3,912,015	13.6%

Position Summary

Authorized Positions	67	67	67	0
Full-time Equivalent (FTE) positions	67.00	67.00	67.00	0.00

⁽¹⁾ Includes adjustments through January 2025

* Excludes Capital Construction expenditures

Summary of Revenue Changes

Federal Funds are the Commission for the Blind’s (OCB) largest source of funding. These funds are primarily from the U.S. Department of Education and are matched at a rate of 78.7% Federal Funds for basic vocational rehabilitation support and as high as 90% Federal Funds for in-service training and independent living. The Vocational Rehabilitation grant, OCB’s largest grant, inflated at a rate of 9.4% over the past year. General Fund and certain Other Funds are used to meet the federal maintenance of effort and matching requirements. Other Funds revenue sources include cooperative agreements with school districts and other providers, business enterprise vendor assessments, and donations.

Summary of Human Services Subcommittee Action

OCB was established in 1937, as a state agency to provide services to Oregonians who experience vision loss and need specialized training and support to live full and productive lives. The mission of OCB is to empower Oregonians who are blind to fully engage in life. That mission is fulfilled through the administration of federal and state funded vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs supporting Oregonians who are blind to retain or gain employment opportunities and live independently in their homes and communities.

The Subcommittee recommended a 2025-27 budget of \$32,781,756 total funds with \$9,497,634 General Fund, \$1,148,422 Other Funds expenditure limitation, \$22,135,700 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and 67 positions (67.00 FTE). This is a 13.6% increase from the agency’s 2023-25 legislatively approved budget.

Administrative Services

The Administrative Services unit provides leadership, financial management, program monitoring, and administrative support for the agency's programs. It includes the Executive Director's Office, Chief Financial Officer, accounting, budget, payroll and benefits, information technology/data processing activities and administrative support for the direct service staff of both the Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living programs. For this unit, the Subcommittee recommended a budget of \$7,475,806 total funds with \$2,913,777 General Fund, \$18,646 Other Funds expenditure limitation, \$4,543,383 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and 20 positions (20.00 FTE). The Subcommittee recommended the following packages:

- Package 090: Analyst Adjustments. This package increases General Fund by \$63,362 and Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$165,798 to reclassify the Agency Head 7 position to an Agency Head 6, a Business Operations Manager 1 to a Business Operations Manager 3, and a Business Operations Supervisor 2 to a Business Operations Manager 1 following an agency level reclassification. The package also reclassifies nine Human Services Analyst 2 positions to Administrative Specialist 1 positions.
- Package 801: LFO Analyst Adjustments. This package corrects an error made in the 2024 legislative session and increases General Fund by \$524,866. During the 2024 legislative session, the Legislature approved reclassifying three positions upwards and shifting their funding from partially federally funded to wholly supported with General Fund, as the positions did not qualify for a federal match. Due to an administrative error, these changes were not included in the Commission's 2023-25 budget.

Rehabilitative Services

The Vocational Rehabilitation Services program is OCB's largest program. Its primary function is to develop and support Oregonians with vision loss in order to achieve successful employment outcomes. The Program has a dual-customer approach—serving Oregonians who experience vision loss and businesses/employers throughout the state. The Subcommittee recommended a budget of \$15,925,147 total funds with \$3,478,984 General Fund, \$608,591 Other Funds expenditure limitation, \$11,837,572 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and 23 positions (23.25 FTE). The Subcommittee recommended the following package:

- Package 090: Analyst Adjustments. This package increases General Fund by \$5,285 and Federal Fund expenditure limitation by \$19,528 to reclassify a Business Operations Manager 1 to a Business Operations Manager 3, Operations and Policy Analyst 3 to a Business Operations Manager 1, and a Business Operations Supervisor 2 to a Business Operations Manager 1 following an agency level reclassification. It also reclassifies an Operations and Policy Analyst 2 to an Operations and Policy Analyst 3 and a Program Analyst 2 to a Program Analyst 3.

Business Enterprises

The Business Enterprises program trains, licenses, and supports individuals who are legally blind, in operating food service and vending in public buildings. The Program is operated under the federal Randolph-Sheppard Act and contracts with public agencies and then enters into operating agreements with licensed blind managers to provide services desired by facilities, creating employment opportunities for individuals who are blind. For this program, the Subcommittee recommended a budget of \$2,164,757 total funds with \$542,675 General Fund, \$518,800 Other Funds expenditure limitation, \$1,103,282 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and five positions (5.00 FTE). The Subcommittee recommended the following package:

- Package 090: Analyst Adjustments. This package increases General Fund by \$6,401 and Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$23,651 to reclassify a Business Operations Supervisor 2 to a Business Operations Manager 1 following an agency level reclassification.

Orientation Center for the Blind

The Orientation and Career Center for the Blind (OCCB) provides skills training for newly blind adults so they might remain as independent as possible. The OCCB training facility is located in Portland. Individuals are referred to OCCB by Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors. Training for each client is orchestrated around their individualized assessment, which is the plan they have developed with their vocational counselor. For this unit, the Subcommittee recommended a budget of \$4,081,503 total funds with \$1,069,469 General Fund, \$2,385 Other Funds expenditure limitation, \$3,009,649 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and 10 positions (10.00 FTE).

Independent Living Services

The Independent Living Services program provides training and resources to individuals who are blind or experiencing significant vision loss so they may live safely and independently and continue to be active in their community. For this program, the Subcommittee recommended a 2025-27 budget of \$3,134,543 total funds with \$1,492,729 General Fund, \$1,641,814 Federal Funds expenditure limitation, and nine positions (8.75 FTE). The Subcommittee recommended the following package:

- Package 090: Analyst Adjustments. This package increases General Fund by \$13,222 and Federal Fund expenditure limitation by \$21,309 to reclassify a Business Operations Supervisor 2 to a Business Operations Manager 1 following an agency level reclassification.

Summary of Performance Measure Action

See attached Legislatively Adopted 2025-27 Key Performance Measures form.

DETAIL OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ACTION

Oregon Commission for the Blind
Paul Johnson -- 971-718-2445

DESCRIPTION	GENERAL FUND	LOTTERY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		FEDERAL FUNDS		TOTAL ALL FUNDS	POS	FTE
			LIMITED	NONLIMITED	LIMITED	NONLIMITED			
2023-25 Legislatively Approved Budget at Jan 2025 *	\$ 8,429,871	\$ -	\$ 1,140,387	\$ -	\$ 19,299,483	\$ -	\$ 28,869,741	67	67.00
2025-27 Current Service Level (CSL)*	\$ 8,884,498	\$ -	\$ 1,148,422	\$ -	\$ 21,905,414	\$ -	\$ 31,938,334	67	67.00
SUBCOMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS (from CSL)									
SCR 001 - Administrative Services									
Package 090: Analyst Adjustments									
Personal Services	\$ 63,362	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165,798	\$ -	\$ 229,160	0	0.00
Package 801: LFO Analyst Adjustments									
Personal Services	\$ 524,866	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 524,866	0	0.00
SCR 002 - Rehabilitative Services									
Package 090: Analyst Adjustments									
Personal Services	\$ 5,285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,528	\$ -	\$ 24,813	0	0.00
SCR 003 - Business Enterprises									
Package 090: Analyst Adjustments									
Personal Services	\$ 6,401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,651	\$ -	\$ 30,052	0	0.00
SCR 006 - Independent Living Services									
Package 090: Analyst Adjustments									
Personal Services	\$ 13,222	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,309	\$ -	\$ 34,531	0	0.00
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 613,136	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 230,286	\$ -	\$ 843,422		
SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION *	\$ 9,497,634	\$ -	\$ 1,148,422	\$ -	\$ 22,135,700	\$ -	\$ 32,781,756	67	67.00
% Change from 2023-25 Leg Approved Budget	12.7%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	14.7%	0.0%	13.6%	0.0%	0.0%
% Change from 2025-27 Current Service Level	6.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%

*Excludes Capital Construction Expenditures

Legislatively Approved 2025 - 2027 Key Performance Measures

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Agency: Commission for the Blind

Mission Statement:

To empower Oregonians who are blind to fully engage in life.

Legislatively Approved KPMs	Metrics	Agency Request	Last Reported Result	Target 2026	Target 2027
1. EMPLOYMENT - Percentage of Vocational Rehabilitation participants who are employed in unsubsidized, competitive, integrated settings the second quarter after exiting the program.		Approved	42	42	42
2. INDEPENDENT LIVING - Percentage of eligible individuals closed successfully and unsuccessfully in the Older Blind Independent Living Program who reported feeling that they are in greater control and are more confident in their ability to maintain their current living situation as a result of services received.		Approved	93	93	93
3. CUSTOMER SERVICE - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency's customer service as "good" or "excellent": overall, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise, availability of information.	1) Accuracy	Approved	83	96.50	96.50
	2) Availability of Information		84	96.50	96.50
	3) Expertise		87	96.50	96.50
	4) Helpfulness		86	96.50	96.50
	5) Timeliness		80	96.50	96.50
	6) Overall		93.60	96.50	96.50
4. BEST PRACTICES - Percent of total best practices met by the Commission.		Approved	97.30%	100%	100%

LFO Recommendation:

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the proposed Key Performance Measures and targets.

SubCommittee Action:

The Human Services Subcommittee approved the Key Performance Measures and targets, as presented.