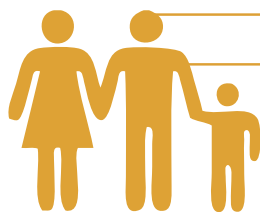


# MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND FACT SHEET



## State Facts

MCB averages  
2,000 new consumer  
registrations annually.

**Age 0-5: 225**  
**Age 5-17: 1,211**  
**Age 18-64: 8,715**  
**Age 65+: 18,680**

## Key Services

MCB has two main programs: Vocational Rehabilitation and Social Rehabilitation.

**Vocational Rehabilitation** services assist older students and adults to prepare for, achieve, retain, or regain employment. This includes the Randolph Sheppard Vocational Rehabilitation program which prepares individuals who are legally blind for a career in concession management.

**Social Rehabilitation** services assist in the adjustment to blindness and support maximum personal independence and living in community. These services are targeted to children 0-13 and seniors. These include

- Deaf-Blind Extended supports (DBES)
- Children Services including case management, referrals, funding for recreational and support for Individualized Education Plans (IEP).

Additionally, consumers access other unique services including: Certificates of Blindness, MCB Blind Identification cards, referrals for MBTA Blind Access CharlieCard, Specialized Telephone Equipment Program and Disabled Parking Placard/Plate for a vehicle.

## ABOUT MCB

As established in M.G.L. c.6, s. 133, (1) "Blind persons", a person who, after examination by a physician or by an optometrist, whichever such person shall select, has been determined to have (a) not more than 20/200 central visual acuity in the better eye with correcting lenses, or (b) an equally disabling loss of the visual field as evidenced by a limitation to the field of vision in the better eye to such a degree that its widest diameter subtends an angle of no greater than 20 degrees.

### Commissioner:

David D'Arcangelo

## STAFFING

**137.3 FTEs** with about **18%** self-identified as individuals with a disability, which makes MCB one of the leading agencies in terms of employing people with disabilities.

## LOCATIONS



### Main Office

600 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02118

MCB has Six Regions. Regional Offices are located in: Springfield, Worcester and New Bedford.

### Phone:

(617) 727-5550

### Fax:

(800) 392-6450

### Website:

[www.mass.gov/mcb](http://www.mass.gov/mcb)

## MCB By the Numbers (FY 2019)



**22,000**  
individuals served  
in FY19

**1,000**  
consumers are  
served by MCB's  
Vocational  
Rehabilitation  
program



**1,200**  
consumers actively  
receive Deaf-Blind  
Extended Supports



In 2019, MCB debuted an Alexa pilot project involving working with older blind consumers to expand their capacity to better manage daily life essential skills through consumer based Smart Speaker technology.



**2,800**  
seniors and other non-vocational  
adults actively receive Social  
Rehabilitation services



**800**  
children are served by Children  
Social Rehabilitation Services  
each year