

OCB offers a specialized, hands-on summer training program for teenagers who are visually impaired.

Through our SWEP program, students gain the same basic skills that typical teenagers learn at summer jobs: learning to follow directions, interacting with co-workers, and taking on increased responsibility.

Who can participate?

To be a part of the

SWEP program students must be:

- Legally blind or condition leading to blindness
- 16-21 years old
- Motivated to work full-time
- Able to perform personal care tasks independently
- Able to travel independently to and from the work site (after initial training)

For more information, or to sign up for the program, please contact us at 888.202.5463.



PORTLAND

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MEDFORD 541.776.6047

ROSEBURG 541.492.1171

BAKER CITY 541.523.4139

REDMOND 541.504.0193

OUR VISION is to achieve full inclusion of people who are visually impaired in society. We help people make informed choices about their individual goals, focusing on successful employment, independent living, and social and financial self-sufficiency. We provide a wide variety of training and services at no cost to qualified participants.

Our vision is clear.

Youth Services

Summer Work Experience Program



Remember Your First Summer Job?

It can be challenging for teenagers to consider and plan ahead for their career, so we offer a program tailored just for students who are visually impaired from

ages 16 to 21.

For over 30 years we have invited these students to come to Portland and Salem for a Summer Work Experience Program (SWEPE). The goals of the program are to promote work readiness, build confidence, and well... have fun!

Students get to:

- Live with peers
- Experience life away from home
- Learn independent living skills
- Earn money working 30-hours/week

Students also participate in a wide variety of recreational activities such as camping, challenge courses, hiking, team building, and visits to local area attractions.

Housing is provided at Reed College for students who live outside the Portland Metropolitan area. Around-the-clock supervision is provided by dormitory counseling staff.

Get Your Company Involved

The Summer Work Experience Program is a great experience for students, and is also a great opportunity for

your company.

When you hire a SWEPE student, you get a dedicated and enthusiastic employee, improved public relations, a more diverse workforce, and an opportunity to provide mentoring and role model support.

Getting started is easy - simply contact us at 888.202.5463, and we'll match you with a student who has the skills you need.

We'll evaluate the work site and provide any specialized training and adaptive technology that may be needed for the experience to be successful.

The Commission can fully subsidize the wages and worker's compensation of students working at public agencies or at tax-supported organizations.

Training the Next Generation

Through our proven training program, our SWEPE participants can work in a variety of settings, from libraries, parks and other

attractions, to offices and stores. Our SWEPE participants have held a wide variety of jobs, including:

- Animal Caretaker
- Cabinet Maker
- Community Policing
- Computer Technician
- Grounds Maintenance
- Data Entry Clerk
- Day Care Worker
- Receptionist
- Tour Guide

“I feel I have gained a lot of valuable work experience from the SWEPE Program and have developed good work skills for my future.”

SWEPE Participant