

About Us

Society for the Blind has celebrated 50 years as the Sacramento region's only full service agency serving blind and visually impaired people of all ages.

Individuals who are blind have earned rewarding careers as lawyers, accountants, chiropractors, teachers, rock climbing guides, chefs, and much, much more. However, in the United States, there is still a 70% unemployment rate for working-age adults who are blind. Society for the Blind is combating this by offering our clients the training and strategies they need to obtain satisfying, meaningful employment.

Our mission is to empower individuals

who are blind or have low vision to

live productively and independently by

building confidence through training,

tools and mentorship.

For more information,

contact Bill Whiting by email:

bwhiting@societyfortheblind.org

or by phone: 916.452.8271 ext. 560

Employment Readiness Program



SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND
1238 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811-7112
(916) 452-8271
www.societyfortheblind.org

**SOCIETY
FOR THE
BLIND**

Purpose:

To prepare clientele for the interview and hiring process and become 'job ready'.

Methodology:

Clientele will be evaluated then proceed through a step by step process which will insure that he/she will be able to effectively apply for employment, interview successfully and follow up appropriately with the goal of securing suitable and gainful employment.

PROGRAM

Module A:

INITIAL INTAKE

To assess the clients current skills and abilities as they relate to current job readiness, blindness skills and adaptive/computer technology; this will also include employment history.

Based on the information gathered the client will either be:

- referred for further training.
- proceed to the next step.

MOCK INTERVIEW I

Client will have a mock interview to determine those areas, if any, that will be of focus later on in the program. These areas may include, but are not limited to, proper dress, resume, interaction with the interviewer, speaking of low vision/blindness, relating adaptive technology skills to assist in performing the essential functions of the position interviewing for.

Module B:

EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION

- Resume Preparation:**
Client will be provided with a professional resume/cover letter and be instructed on the proper techniques on how to draft both documents.
- Interview skills/techniques:**
 - how to frame answers to questions
 - how to speak of blindness skills
 - how to talk about/demonstrate adaptive technology
 - how to follow up
- Proper Dress:**
Client will be instructed on the appropriate attire for an interview; how not to over dress or under dress.
- How to conduct a successful job search:**
 - how to navigate job search web sites
 - how to avoid scams
 - how to respond via email to a potential employment opportunity
 - how to apply attaching a cover letter and resume
 - how to follow up after sending the email application

MOCK INTERVIEW II

Upon successful completion of the above steps the client will be put through a second mock interview and critiqued on what he/she has learned. A determination will be made at that time as to if the person is job ready.

Module C:

JOB PLACEMENT

With the assistance of the Job Developer the client will begin a job search using the skills learned. He/she will be expected to use those resources as provided by SFB (computer/ internet time, work station, etc.) as well as their own to conduct a job search. The Job Developer will provide leads as they are developed and the client will be expected to follow up on those leads given.

- additional interview coaching, as needed, prior to job interview.
- post interview meeting with client.
- work place follow up upon hire to insure AT equipment needs are met.
- retention follow up for 90 days upon successful placement.

