

Role and Overview

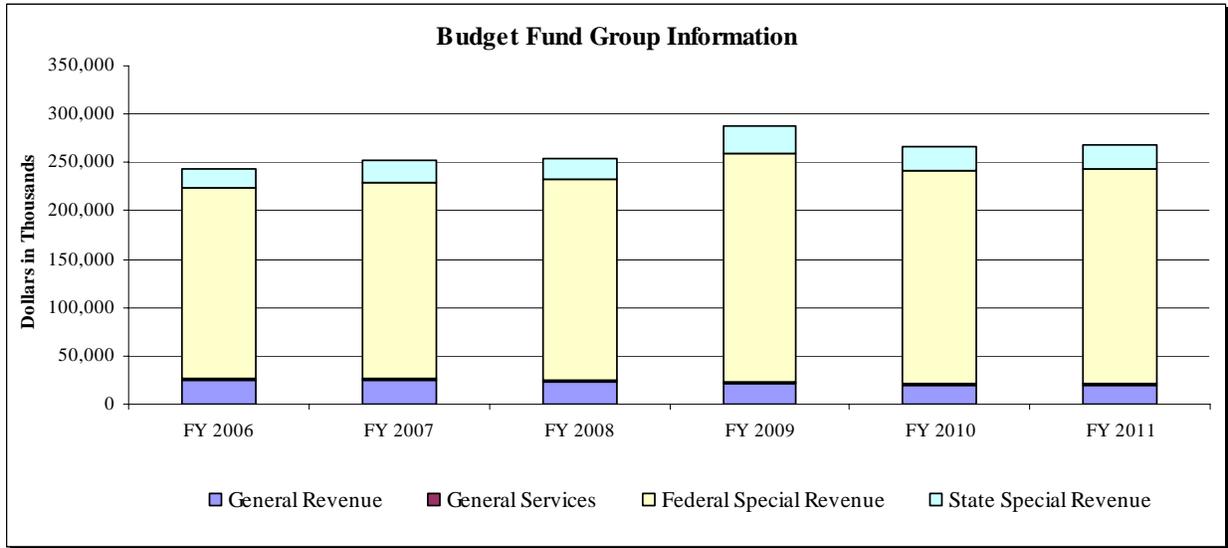
The Rehabilitation Services Commission (RSC) works in partnership with people with disabilities to achieve employment and independence. Directed by a seven-member commission, RSC is comprised of three bureaus, two of which provide direct vocational rehabilitation services. Created by the Ohio General Assembly, the commission is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. No more than four commission members may be of the same political party. Three must be representatives from the rehabilitation profession, including at least one member must be involved with the blind. At least four commissioners must be individuals with disabilities, including at least two but no more than three who have received vocational rehabilitation services from the state vocational rehabilitation agency or the Veterans' Administration. Commission members serve staggered seven-year terms. RSC has provided quality services to people with disabilities and employers since 1970; however, Ohio's commitment to vocational rehabilitation started in 1920. The commission has over 1,285 employees with an annual operating budget of approximately \$280 million. Today, the agency is a nationally-recognized leader in helping people with severe disabilities achieve their employment goals. As a result, these Ohioans enjoy independent and self-sufficient lives, contribute to their communities, and enrich the state's workforce.

More information about the Rehabilitation Services Commission is available at <http://rsc.ohio.gov/>.

Agency Priorities

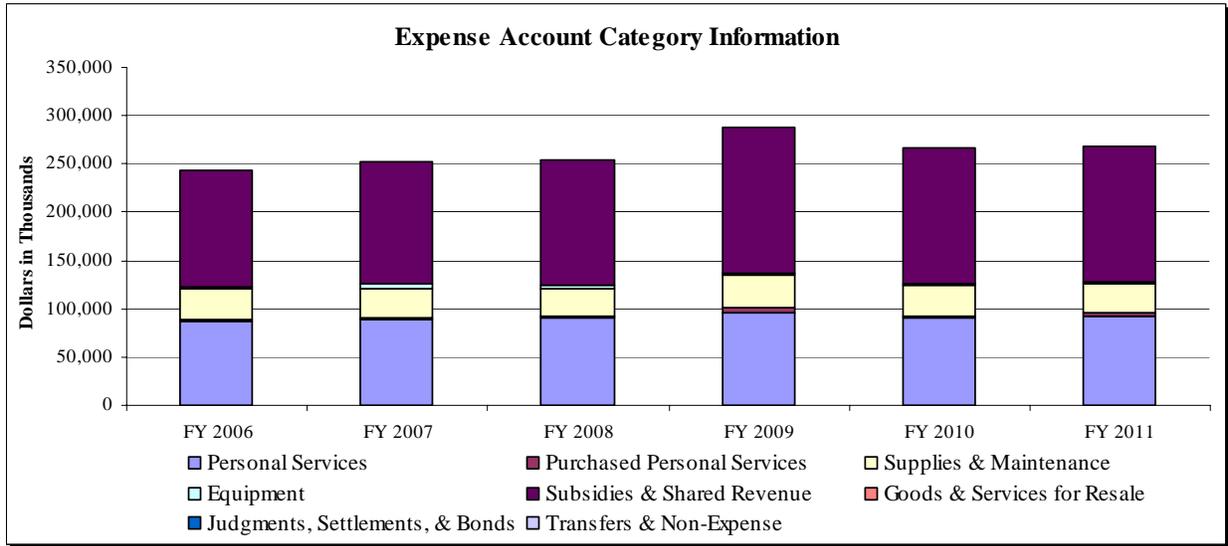
- Partner with people with disabilities to achieve quality employment, independence and disability determination outcomes.
- Assist businesses in hiring job-ready workers and retaining employee with disabilities.
- Provide customer service training to business to serve customers with disabilities and assist with accessibility compliance.
- Provide transition to work programs for youth with disabilities and for veterans with disabilities returning from war.
- Support entrepreneurship opportunities to persons with severe disabilities through the Business Enterprise program.
- Provide timely adjudication of Social Security disability claims while thwarting fraudulent claims.

Summary of Budget History and Recommendations



- Growth in both Federal and State Special Revenue in fiscal year 2009 is partially due to the addition of the Pathways II program, which uses local funds matched with federal dollars (at approximately a four to one rate) to deliver Vocational Rehabilitation services.

(In Thousands) BUDGET FUND GROUP	ACTUAL			EST.	%	RECOMMENDED			
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 08-09	FY 2010	%	FY 2011	%
General Revenue	25,178	25,090	23,922	21,724	-9.2	19,357	-10.9	19,357	0.0
General Services	1,309	1,118	1,208	1,632	35.1	1,393	-14.6	1,390	-0.2
Federal Special Revenue	196,986	203,692	208,055	236,371	13.6	220,480	-6.7	223,157	1.2
State Special Revenue	19,444	23,079	20,706	28,362	37.0	24,698	-12.9	24,771	0.3
TOTAL	242,916	252,979	253,891	288,089	13.5	265,927	-7.7	268,675	1.0



- Growth in both Subsidies and Shared Revenue in fiscal year 2009 is primarily due to the addition of the Pathways II program, which uses local funds matched with federal dollars (at approximately a four to one rate) to deliver Vocational Rehabilitation services.

(In Thousands) EXPENSE ACCOUNT CATEGORY	ACTUAL			EST.	% CHANGE	RECOMMENDED			
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 08-09	FY 2010	% CHANGE	FY 2011	% CHANGE
Personal Services	86,692	88,750	89,786	96,065	7.0	89,772	-6.6	92,524	3.1
Purchased Personal Services	3,028	2,443	2,351	4,650	97.8	3,269	-29.7	3,282	0.4
Supplies & Maintenance	30,231	29,387	28,776	34,509	19.9	30,581	-11.4	30,950	1.2
Equipment	3,103	5,790	2,828	964	-65.9	3,070	218.5	1,972	-35.8
Subsidies & Shared Revenue	119,549	126,326	129,979	151,854	16.8	139,209	-8.3	139,922	0.5
Goods & Services for Resale	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Judgments, Settlements, & Bonds	311	284	130	46	-64.5	25	-45.9	25	0.0
Transfers & Non-Expense	0	0	42	1	-98.8	0	-100.0	0	0.0
TOTAL	242,916	252,979	253,891	288,089	13.5	265,927	-7.7	268,675	1.0

PROGRAM SERIES 01: Vocational Rehabilitation

The primary goal of this program series is to help people with severe disabilities obtain and main competitive employment.

Program 01.01: Vocational Rehabilitation

This program is a multi-service program designed for people with disabilities who have barriers to becoming employed. Vocational rehabilitation services assist people in obtaining and maintaining employment. RSC is the state agency designated by the Federal Rehabilitation Act to administer and supervise VR services in the state. The federal government matches every state dollar with almost four federal dollars. RSC also receives additional funds for VR services through a cash transfer agreement with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation. In SFY 2009, RSC implemented the Pathways II Program, a collaborative arrangement with local government entities in order to maximize dollars available to provide vocational rehabilitation services to Ohioans with disabilities. During federal fiscal year 2008, RSC helped 54,351 people with severe disabilities move toward their employment goals and prepare for jobs in their communities. A total of 9,370 Ohioans obtained or retained a job and generated \$37.7

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million in taxes. Their wages, averaging \$22,655 per year, as a result of vocational rehabilitation, add more than \$212.3 million to Ohio payrolls annually.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Support rehabilitation services to over 48,000 Ohioans with disabilities;
- Fund services to aid more than 15,000 individuals over the biennium to become competitively employed at an average annual income of \$24,000; and
- Maintain 37 offices throughout the state to provide direct services.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
GRF	GRF	415406	Assistive Technology	38,025	38,025
GRF	GRF	415506	Services for People with Disabilities	18,738,043	18,738,043
FED	3790	415616	Federal-Vocational Rehabilitation	126,116,916	127,188,795
FED	3L10	415608	Soc Sec Special Program/Assistance	1,752,714	1,884,714
FED	3L40	415615	Federal-Supported Employment	883,214	839,054
FED	3L40	415617	Independent Living/Vocational Rehab Program	631,710	633,141
SSR	4680	415618	Third Party Funding	4,853,159	4,853,159
SSR	4L10	415619	Services For Rehabilitation	4,067,773	3,994,154
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				157,081,554	158,169,085

Program 01.02: Business Enterprises

Created by the Federal Randolph Sheppard Act, this program provides job opportunities for persons who are blind or severely visually impaired. These individuals are provided with management training and the equipment necessary to run vending and food service facilities on federal, state, and county properties. The program is responsible for developing new food service operations, monitoring existing operations, and providing training to new and existing licensed food service operators. This program, one of many nationwide, is the single largest employment program for the legally blind in Ohio. The Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired facilitates self-employment food service and vending opportunities for legally blind entrepreneurs. The 115 blind licensees of the program manage 119 facilities statewide. These facilities include: full service cafeterias; vending operations, including those located in Ohio Department of Transportation highway rest areas; snack bars; and convenience stores. Many of the major cafeteria operations also offer catering services. In fiscal year 2008 the program realized over \$19 million in gross sales (not including Ohio Lottery ticket sales of \$2 million), employed more than 175 Ohioans, and contributed an estimated annual \$520,000 in state sales tax through the sale of taxable items.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Fund assistance to 117 blind licensees managing 117 facilities, and
- Maintain jobs for 297 Ohioans.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
GSF	4670	415609	Business Enterprise Operating	1,393,002	1,389,851
FED	3790	415616	Federal-Vocational Rehabilitation	3,394,065	3,397,216
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				4,787,067	4,787,067

Program 01.03: Brain Injury

This program promotes a statewide system of services to return persons with brain injuries to a productive role in society and also works toward reducing the incidence of brain injury and the severity of impairments due to such injuries. This program also provides staff support to a statewide Brain Injury Advisory Committee. RSC serves in an

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administrative role, making funding awards to the Brain Injury Association of Ohio. The advisory committee monitors funding and retains project oversight for core services, including Ohio's Community Support Network, a statewide resource facilitation system operated by the Brain Injury Association of Ohio. Program funds support four multi-county Community Support Network (CSN) offices serving multi-county areas throughout the state. These coordinators address the needs of both individuals with brain injuries and their families. The program operates a statewide toll-free Helpline that provides resource identification and outreach services to over 4,000 callers annually. The association offers education, training, and advocacy through its Helpline, Community Support Network, support groups, and collaborative ventures with other service providers.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Maintain four Community Support Networks; and
- Maintain a statewide toll-free Helpline, which provides resource identification, outreach services education, and training services for 2,300 callers annually.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
GRF	GRF	415431	Office For People With Brain Injury	180,810	180,810
FED	3790	415616	Federal-Vocational Rehabilitation	324,643	324,643
FED	3L40	415617	Independent Living/Vocational Rehab Program	118,000	118,000
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				623,453	623,453

Program 01.04: Personal Care Assistance

This program provides financial resources to help eligible consumers with severe disabilities pay for the cost of a personal assistant to allow them to work and live independently. The program prioritizes allocation of financial resources to consumers so that they may work or participate in activities leading to employment. The services made available to consumers include: bathing, dressing, personal grooming, performing bowel and bladder care, toileting, preparing meals and eating, repositioning and turning, driving services, recordkeeping, house cleaning, and laundry.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Allow 232 consumers with severe disabilities to meet the cost of their personal assistance needs and enable them to obtain and maintain employment and/or live independently;
- Provide financial resources for consumers with severe disabilities to hire and supervise the personal care attendants of their choice;
- Enable consumers who are employed to gradually progress toward assuming more of the attendant care costs, as their income grows;
- Provide a resource for consumers who are ready for employment but need attendant care to accept a job offer; and
- Enable approximately 24 consumers to live independently in the community who have no other resources for attendant care.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
FED	3L10	415601	Soc Sec Personal Care Assistance	3,000,000	2,700,000
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				3,000,000	2,700,000

Program 01.05: Community Centers for the Deaf

This program provides support services such as legal protection, health and mental health care, telecommunications, public transportation, government services, and other public and private social services to enable deaf or hard of

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hearing individuals to be independent, self-supporting taxpayers. Sign language interpreting services, sign language instruction, and information concerning the American with Disabilities Act are also provided to consumers.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Fund ten Community Centers for the Deaf; and
- Provide assistance to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing so they can access programs such as legal protection, health care, telecommunications, public transportation, government services, and other public and social services.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
GRF	GRF	415508	Services For The Deaf	40,000	40,000
FED	3L10	415605	Soc Sec Community Centers for the Deaf	750,000	750,000
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				790,000	790,000

Program 01.06: Independent Living/Older Blind

This program provides services to older individuals with vision loss to help them remain independent. People served are generally over the age of 70 and want to continue working, volunteering, or maintaining their own homes. Eye diseases such as macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, cataracts, and glaucoma are a looming health care issue for the state as its population ages.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Provide services such as counseling, training, communication aids and vision services to older individuals with vision loss to help them remain independent.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
FED	3L40	415617	Independent Living/Vocational Rehab Program	1,202,152	1,202,152
SSR	4680	415618	Third Party Funding	155,815	155,815
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				1,357,967	1,357,967

PROGRAM SERIES 02: Disability Determination

The Bureau of Disability Determination, under an agreement with the Social Security Administration (SSA), processes Social Security disability determinations for all Ohioans who have applied at their local Social Security office for benefits under Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a needs-based income supplement program and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). Under this federal program financial assistance is provided to Ohioans who are totally disabled and meet the SSA requirements for disability. Both adults and children receive benefits until they are able to return to work, or in the case of children, until they can return to age-appropriate activities. Benefits can be continued during vocational rehabilitation and during a trial work period.

Program 02.01: Disability Determination

This program processes Social Security disability determinations for all Ohioans who have applied at their local Social Security office for benefits under Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a needs-based income supplement program and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). The source of funding for disability determination is 100% federal.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Determine eligibility for over 553,000 Ohioans who receive monthly disability benefits; and

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- Process over 180,000 claims per year.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
FED	3170	415620	Disability Determination	81,685,226	83,498,461
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				81,685,226	83,498,461

PROGRAM SERIES 03: Independent Living

This program series promotes consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy in order to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities and their integration into mainstream American society.

Program 03.01: Independent Living

This program provides funding to Centers for Independent Living as well as branch offices. These centers focus on the following four core services: independent living skills training, peer support, advocacy, and information and referral. The centers are community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential, private, nonprofit agencies operated by people with disabilities. These centers provide Ohioans with disabilities with the necessary skills to live independently and contribute to society. Without these skills many individuals would find themselves without community support.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Fund 11 Centers for Independent Living and two branch offices; and
- Support the Independent Living Council efforts to coordinate and increase the impact of independent living services throughout the state.

FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
GRF	GRF	415402	Independent Living Council	360,000	360,000
FED	3L40	415612	Federal Independent Living Center/Services	620,880	620,880
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				980,880	980,880

PROGRAM SERIES 04: Program Management

This program series provides all necessary administrative and support services to RSC's direct service programs. The cost of centralized services funded through this program series is proportional to the activities and production levels of the teams and bureaus that provide direct consumer services.

Program 04.01: Program Management

This program provides centralized administrative services and functions funded through this program budget include: statewide cost allocation group, legislative process unit, executive director's office, office of affirmative action, staff attorney, human resources team, administrative support team, finance unit, property management, information technology and telecommunication systems team, budget unit, program policy unit, consumer and legislative affairs team, and public affairs unit.

The Executive Recommendation will fund the following objectives:

- Fund personnel needed to support the Commission's activities.

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FUND				RECOMMENDED	
GROUP	FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2010	FY 2011
SSR	4W50	415606	Program Management Expenses	15,620,782	15,767,803
TOTAL FOR PROGRAM				15,620,782	15,767,803

Rehabilitation Services Commission

LINE ITEM SUMMARY - Rehabilitation Services Commission

FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2006 ACTUAL	FY 2007 ACTUAL	FY 2008 ACTUAL	FY 2009 ESTIMATE	FY 2010 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE	FY 2011 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE
GRF	415100	Personal Services	8,851,468	8,851,468	8,833,227	7,770,561	0	-100.0	0	.0
GRF	415402	Independent Living Council	12,280	400,000	446,297	450,000	360,000	-20.0	360,000	0.0
GRF	415403	Mental Health Services	666,791	767,626	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
GRF	415404	MR/DD Services	1,231,520	1,291,497	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
GRF	415405	Vocational Rehabilitation/Human Services	509,706	568,084	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
GRF	415406	Assistive Technology	47,531	47,531	47,530	47,500	38,025	-19.9	38,025	0.0
GRF	415431	Office For People With Brain Injury	148,400	503,677	226,012	213,016	180,810	-15.1	180,810	0.0
GRF	415506	Services For People With Disabilities	13,272,331	12,188,922	14,318,682	13,192,753	18,738,043	42.0	18,738,043	0.0
GRF	415508	Services For The Deaf	50,003	49,997	50,000	50,000	40,000	-20.0	40,000	0.0
GRF	415509	Services For The Elderly	346,067	372,202	0	0	0	.0	0	.0
GRF	415520	Independent Living Services	41,942	49,297	703	0	0	.0	0	.0
TOTAL General Revenue			25,178,039	25,090,301	23,922,451	21,723,830	19,356,878	-10.9	19,356,878	0.0
4670	415609	Business Enterprise Operating	1,308,886	1,117,809	1,207,885	1,632,082	1,393,002	-14.6	1,389,851	-0.2
TOTAL General Services			1,308,886	1,117,809	1,207,885	1,632,082	1,393,002	-14.6	1,389,851	-0.2
3170	415620	Disability Determination	74,201,548	76,903,751	76,751,761	87,546,215	81,685,226	-6.7	83,498,461	2.2
3790	415616	Federal-Vocational Rehabilitation	112,394,004	118,055,520	122,476,819	139,333,324	129,835,624	-6.8	130,910,654	0.8
3L10	415601	Soc Sec Personal Care Assistance	3,630,769	3,440,466	3,190,121	3,743,740	3,000,000	-19.9	2,700,000	-10.0
3L10	415605	Soc Sec Community Centers For The Deaf	1,060,879	1,084,095	886,960	750,000	750,000	0.0	750,000	0.0
3L10	415608	Soc Sec Special Program/Assistance	837,285	124,464	1,297,909	1,506,260	1,752,714	16.4	1,884,714	7.5
3L10	415610	Soc Sec Vocational Rehabilitation	1,634,730	983,069	2,000	0	0	.0	0	.0
3L40	415612	Federal Independent Living Center/Services	566,541	615,871	653,452	648,908	620,880	-4.3	620,880	0.0
3L40	415615	Federal-Supported Employment	993,618	1,036,158	861,823	796,006	883,214	11.0	839,054	-5.0
3L40	415617	Independent Living/Vocational Rehabilitation Program	1,666,551	1,448,317	1,934,202	2,046,762	1,951,862	-4.6	1,953,293	0.1
TOTAL Federal Special Revenue			196,985,925	203,691,711	208,055,046	236,371,215	220,479,520	-6.7	223,157,056	1.2
4680	415618	Third Party Funding	883,452	832,965	858,548	5,304,662	5,008,974	-5.6	5,008,974	0.0
4L10	415619	Services For Rehabilitation	2,903,325	6,586,629	3,755,112	4,500,000	4,067,773	-9.6	3,994,154	-1.8

Rehabilitation Services Commission

LINE ITEM SUMMARY - Rehabilitation Services Commission

FUND	ALI	ALI NAME	FY 2006 ACTUAL	FY 2007 ACTUAL	FY 2008 ACTUAL	FY 2009 ESTIMATE	FY 2010 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE	FY 2011 RECOMMENDED	% CHANGE
4W50	415606	Program Management Expenses	15,656,737	15,659,540	16,092,161	18,557,040	15,620,782	-15.8	15,767,803	0.9
TOTAL State Special Revenue			19,443,513	23,079,134	20,705,821	28,361,702	24,697,529	-12.9	24,770,931	0.3
TOTAL Rehabilitation Services Commission			242,916,364	252,978,956	253,891,204	288,088,829	265,926,929	-7.7	268,674,716	1.0