**Blind Field Services Program Report**

**Third Quarter 2024 - 2025**

**January 1, 2025 – March   31, 2025**

It is the vision of BFS to increase the number of successful employment outcomes for consumers seeking competitive employment and ensure that every blind and visually impaired Californian who wants to work, obtains employment; and every blind and visually impaired Californian who may not believe they can work, is provided the necessary counseling and guidance to overcome their individual barriers to employment.

Unless otherwise stated, all data is 1/1/2025 through 3/31/2025. Data was gathered from Aware and the DOR Dashboard.

**BFS Statistics for State Fiscal Year to Date (SFYTD) 2024 – 2025; third quarter**

**Total Applications as of 3/31/2025: 352**

Applications as of the same date in 2024: 331

Applications as of the same date in 2023; 284

Applications as of the same date in 2022; 288

Applications as of the same date in 2021; 227

Applications as of the same date in 2020; 186

Applications as of the same date in 2019; 260

**Services to Students with a Disability (SWD) Applications**

The Term "Student with a Disability" means, in general, an individual with a disability in a secondary, postsecondary, or other recognized education program who is aged 16-21.

**SWD Applications of the total number above:**

**1/1/2025 - 3/31/2025:  40 or 11.36 % of the total number of applications**

SWD as of the same date in 2024; 44 or 13.29 % of the total apps.

SWD as of the same date in 2023; 47 or 16.5% of total apps.

SWD as of the same date in 2022; 40 or 13.88 % of total apps.

SWD as of the same date in 2021; 24 or 10.5 % of total apps.

SWD as of the same date in 2020; 21 or 11.29% of total apps.

SWD as of the same date in 2019; 26 or 10 % of total apps.

**Total number of individuals served this quarter:**

Total Number of Individuals Served this quarter 4283

**WAGE DATA**

**This information covers January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025**

BFS has the highest hourly wages at $29.65 per hour. The statewide average was $23.48 per hour.

The median hourly wage for BFS was $23.04.  The statewide median hourly wage was $20.00

The average hours worked per week for BFS was 33.  The statewide average hours per week was 33

The median hours worked per week for BFS was 40.  The statewide median hours per week was 40.

**Total Successful closures as of 3/31/2025:  91**

Successful closures as of the same date in 2024; 86

Successful closures as of the same date in 2023; 81

Successful closures as of the same date in 2022; 78

Successful closures as of the same date in 2021; 95

Successful closures as of the same date in 2020; 56

Successful closures as of the same date in 2019; 88

**Successful Closure Information - Placements earning $25 per hour or more**

* Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health; $76.92 per hour, 40 hours per week.
* Lawyer, $75.00 per hour, 40 hours per week
* Human Resources, Training, and Labor Relations Specialists, $71.88 per hour, 40 hours per week
* Technical Writers, $64.90 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Computer Programmers; $62.50 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Supervisors And Managers/Supervisors; $61.50 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Medical And Clinical Laboratory Technicians; $55.72 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Instructional Coordinators; $51.92 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Instructional Coordinators; $49.28 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Electrical And Electronic Engineers; $48.18 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Sales Representatives, Except Retail and Scientific And Related Products And Services; $46.63 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Lawyers; $46.15 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Managers and Administrators; $46.15 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Procurement Clerks; $43.90 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Supervisors And Managers/Supervisors; $40.38 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Computer Network Architects; $40.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Instructors And Coaches, Sports And Physical Training; $40.00 per hour; 30 hours per week
* Respiratory Therapists; $38.52 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Instructors And Coaches, Sports and Physical Training; $38.46 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Health Professionals, Paraprofessionals, And Technicians; $36.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Administrative Services Managers; $33.78 per hour; 40 hours per

week

* Financial Analysts, Statistical; $33.65 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Customer Service Representatives; $32.50 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Business Operations Specialists, All Other; $31.77 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Teachers, Elementary School; $31.73 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Teachers and Instructors; $28.85 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Rehabilitation Counselors; $29.79 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Massage Therapists; $29.59 per hour; 30 hours per week
* Child Care Workers; $25.50 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Computer Network Support Specialists; $26.10 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Human Services Workers; $25.38 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Sales Agents and Placers, Insurance; $25.00 per hour; 25 hours per week
* Marriage and Family Therapists; $25.00 per hour, 20 hours per week
* Human Services Workers; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Customer Service Representatives; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* All Other Engineering And Related Technicians And Technologists; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Interpreters and Translators; $25.00 per hour; 3 hours per week
* Teacher Aides and Educational Assistants, Clerical; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Physical Therapists; $25.00 per hour, 8 hours per week
* Human Services Workers; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week
* Emergency Management Specialists; $25.00 per hour; 40 hours per week.

**Key Staff Updates:**

New Director, Kim Rutledge started in January 2025.

Regional Director covering for BFS: Maria Turrubiartes

Acting District Administrator: Jessica Hatcher

**BFS Updates**

We are saddened to report the passing of two valued team members:

* Carla Capineri
* Douglas Mochidome

Their contributions and presence will be deeply missed.

**Department-Level Updates**

Recruitment efforts are ongoing for key leadership positions, including:

* Independent Living Centers (ILC) Deputy Director
* Legislation & Communication Deputy Director
* Vocational Rehabilitation Employment Division (VRED) Assistant Deputy Director
* Chief Counsel
* BFS District Administrator (first-round interviews scheduled for May 2025)
* Redistricting in Bay Area/Coastal Districts.

**Return to Office (RTO) Updates**

* The department is making a good-faith effort to comply with RTO guidance.
* There is a 4,000-parking space deficit in Sacramento, and the Department of General Services (DGS) is exploring parking solutions.
* No additional updates have been provided regarding the initial RTO survey on office space.
* A licensed clinical social worker will be available as a resource for staff navigating RTO transitions.

**Federal Updates**

* The President has eliminated the Department of Education’s executive order, but no immediate reductions in force are occurring. We were asked to either move into the Department of Labor or the Department of Human Services.
* The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) is continuing operations as usual, but the situation remains fluid.
* The federal government is restructuring health and human services, with a planned reduction of 10,000 staff and the elimination of community living programs (e.g., aging and disability services, elder abuse programs, and Meals on Wheels).
* Senior leadership will be attended the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR) in April.