2026 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB30 (Introduced)

Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

Item 345	First Year - FY2027	Second Year - FY2028
Rehabilitation Assistance Services (45400)	**$16,563,353**	**$16,563,353**
Vocational Rehabilitation Services (45404)	$10,259,173	$10,259,173
Community Based Independent Living Services (45407)	$5,831,418	$5,831,418
Vending Stands, Cafeterias, and Snack Bars (45410)	$472,762	$472,762
Fund Sources:		
General	$4,171,871	$4,171,871
Special	$570,218	$570,218
Federal Trust	$11,821,264	$11,821,264

Authority: Title 51.5, Chapters 1 and 12, Code of Virginia; P.L. 93-516 and P.L. 93-112, Federal Code.

A. It is the intent of the General Assembly that visually impaired persons who have completed vocational training as food service managers through programs operated by the Department be considered for food service management position openings within the Commonwealth as they arise.

B.1. The annual federal vocational rehabilitation grant award that will be received by the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) is estimated at $12,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2026; $12,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2027; and $12,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2028. In addition to the base annual award amount, DBVI may request up to $2,000,000 of additional federal reallotment dollars in each of these years. Assuming these amounts, the annual 21.3 percent state matching requirement would equate to $3,902,878 for federal fiscal year 2026; $3,902,878 for federal fiscal year 2027; and $3,902,878 for federal fiscal year 2028.

2. Based on the projection of federal award funding in paragraph B.1., DBVI shall not request federal vocational rehabilitation grant dollars in excess of $14,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2026; $14,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2027; and $14,420,492 for federal fiscal year 2028, without prior written concurrence from the Director, Department of Planning and Budget. Any approved increases in grant award requests shall be reported by DARS to the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees within 30 days.