

# The EDGE Program



Employment Development Growth Education (EDGE) is a year-long program for young adults with visual impairments as they enter into post-secondary life. Graduating seniors who chose to defer receiving their high school diploma for a year to attend the EDGE program at the Ohio State School for the Blind. This program is a collaboration between OSSB, the student's home district and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities/BSVI.

Young adults who express an interest in learning and improving their social skills, independence, and communication skills. Program attendees receive community-based job readiness training with the support of an experienced job coach. Young adults learn to navigate social skills to become as independent with job and community travel as possible. There are many different job sites that our young adults have the opportunity to intern with during the day.

In the evenings, EDGE participants take part in the residential program. EDGE program members focus on adult living skills with a focus on the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). They will gain skills in personal hygiene, meal planning, nutrition, independent shopping, budgeting, paying bills and planning recreational activities. EDGE participants continue to build positive social skills needed for the work world while in the dorm setting and in the community.

The EDGE program is structured in an adaptive way to suit individual needs. We understand that each individual student has unique goals for their life and we strive to empower our young adults in achieving their goals. The EDGE program is an

innovative and educational experience that also includes fun and friendship. We hope to see you in the fall!

If interested please visit [www.ossb.ohio.gov](http://www.ossb.ohio.gov) for the application instructions.

This program description was written by the 2019-2020 EDGE participants