

# **R**esource Guide

Access Services provides low-cost transportation covering routes similar to the Los Angeles County buses. It takes approximately 21 days for applications to be processed. Call 1-800-827-0829.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) has reduced monthly rates for people who are visually impaired. The bus pass offers unlimited usage but must be renewed each month. Bus passes can be purchased at any pass sales outlet, including most chain grocery stores. Contact the Disabled Riders Hotline at 1-800-621-7828.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments are provided in some cases. For more information, contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

The California Department of Rehabilitation offers a variety of counseling, vocational and other services for people who provide proof of legal blindness. Counselors assess functioning vision and go into a person's home to teach daily living skills, and in some cases, mobility training. Vocational assistance is often in the form of monies for school, textbooks or adaptive computers. Contact your local Department of Rehabilitation office for more information on what services are available in your area.

Compton	(310) 637-1151
Santa Monica	(310) 582-8900
Greater Los Angeles	(213) 736-3904
West Valley	(818) 596-4302
Pasadena	(626) 304-8300
Gardena	(310) 715-3900
West Adams	(323) 766-2400
South Bay	(310) 793-1157

Verizon and SBC Pacific Bell offer large-button phones free of charge and unlimited directory assistance. SBC Pacific Bell also has recently introduced a telephone bill in large print. Call SBC Pacific Bell at 1-800-772-3140 or the California Telephone Access Program at 1-800-806-1191 for more information.

Contact your local financial institution for information on ordering large-print checks and other adaptive banking services.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers a deduction for people who are legally blind. Filing status and age help determine deduction amounts for those eligible. Call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 for information or contact them on the Internet at [www.irs.ustreas.gov](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov).