

Youth policy is the strategic priority of development of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The leading role here plays the movement of young visually impaired people who are involved in VOS regional organisations, factories and institutions. Regional and All Russia Youth Educational Forums are held annually as support measures for the Youth.



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**The All Russia
Association
of the Blind (VOS):
key facts and
figures**

The All Russia Association of the Blind (VOS) was founded in 1925 and unites visually impaired citizens of the Russian Federation and their legitimate representatives. VOS was established to lobby the interests and protect the rights of visually impaired people, provide social support, rehabilitation, help them to integrate into society and create equal opportunities for them.

As of December 1, 2022 VOS unites 188 000 people. It comprises 76 regional organisations. All of the regional organisations are situated in 8 Federal Regions. Since December 2021 Vladimir Sipkin has been the President of the VOS.

VOS has established and supports 167 factories in 68 territorial entities of the Russian Federation. Their main purpose - employment of blind and partially sighted people who are the most sophisticated category of people with disabilities in terms of manufacturing processes adaptation and equipping workspaces. They also serve the purpose of social and vocational integration as well as providing additional profit to disability pension.

VOS helps blind and partially sighted people to find work not only on its factories but in Association's institutions and organisations, open labor market, lobbies the improvement of the labor legislation at federal and regional levels with regard to visually impaired people interests. The most popular professions are masseurs, tiflo pedagogues, computer specialists, sound producers, musicians, psychologists, lawyers.



President of the All-Russian Association of the Blind Vladimir Sipkin



Editor-in-Chief of Radio VOS Marina Sukharkova conducts an interview with the Minister of Education of Russia Sergey Kravtsov

An important direction of the work of the VOS is the activity in the field of rehabilitation of the visually impaired by means of culture and art, sports, educational activities, information support and work with youth. Festivals, forums, competitions, sports competitions at the international, all-Russian and regional levels are held annually for Russian visually impaired people. New methods and forms of rehabilitation of the visually impaired are being mastered, and the latest information technologies are being introduced into the rehabilitation and educational process.