

become blind while a resident of this State, or must have been a resident of this State for seven years prior to making application for relief under this Act. A resident of another State in attendance as a pupil at a college, university, technical, professional or other school in this State, or as a patient in a hospital or under the care of a physician for eye trouble, should not be entitled to receive relief under the provision of this Act.

19. At least ten days prior to action on any claim for relief hereunder, a person claiming shall file with the Board of the Maryland Workshop for the Blind application setting forth the facts bringing him within these provisions. Such applications and written reports of the evidence relating thereto shall be kept on file, which record shall be open to the public. The Maryland Workshop for the Blind shall make or cause to be made careful investigation, looking up his references, and pursuing such other sources of information as are available for the purpose of determining the truth of the statement contained in the application; and whether, under all circumstances, considering his own resources, and the ability of any member of his family to contribute to his support, the possibility of compelling contributions from any person under obligation to do so, and the possibility of the applicant receiving such education or instruction as will enable him to become at least, partially self-supporting, the applicant is in need of a benefit under the provisions of this Act.

No certificate of qualification of drawing money hereunder shall be granted until the Maryland Workshop for the Blind shall be satisfied from the evidence of at least two reputable residents of the county or the City of Baltimore that they know the applicant to be needy under the terms of this Act, and to have the residential qualifications to entitle him to the relief asked for, and of the Examiner of the Blind that he knows the applicant to have vision so defective as to render him incapable of earning the necessities of life.

(a) The Maryland Workshop for the Blind after thorough examination shall determine the eligibility of the applicant for entry into the Maryland Workshop for the Blind, and, if it is demonstrated that the applicant cannot learn to be partially or wholly self-supporting, the individual shall be sent back to the Board of County Commissioners recommending him and provided with a relief by the Maryland Workshop for the Blind in such sum as said Board of the Maryland Workshop for the Blind finds needed, not to exceed Two Hundred