

VI Curriculum

In addition to collaborating with general education teachers, District staff, and parents, VI teachers also provide instruction in the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). The ECC is a disability-specific set of skills that compensates for vision loss and is foundational to all other learning. The ECC focuses on these specific areas.

- Compensatory Access (including braille instruction, as determined by student need)
- Sensory Efficiency
- Assistive Technology
- Independent Skills (ILS)
- Social Interaction
- Recreation and Leisure
- Career Education
- Self-Determination

Expanded Core Curriculum for Students with Visual Impairments (ECC)



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Programs for the Visually Impaired (VI)

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About the Visually Impaired (VI) Program

Blind/Partially Sighted (BPS) services are provided to students ages 3-22 with visual impairments whose vision loss meets the legal standard as either legally blind or partially sighted and negatively impacts their ability to access core curriculum and/or acquire the skills necessary to participate in fundamental life activities.



Who Qualifies for VI Services?

Prior to any referral, the parent or school should have a current (within one year) medical report from an optometrist or ophthalmologist indicating that the student has a diagnosis of a loss of acuity or visual field, which meets the legal standard as either legally blind or partially sighted. Those standards are:

1. Legal blindness: Visual Acuity of 20/200 or worse in the better eye, with the best correction, or a visual field of 20 degrees or less in both eyes.
2. Partially Sighted (or Low Vision) Visual acuity of 20/70 – 20/200 in the best eye with the use of correction (CFR 20 404.1581).



Referral Process

Once the student has a current visual medical report, a parent or school staff member may contact the Visually Impaired (VI) Program to initiate a referral. The VI program nurse will request a copy of the current eye medical information and review the report to determine if the information meets the medical benchmark of either legal blindness or partial sight. If additional explanation is needed to clarify information in the eye medical report the nurse will follow up.

Service Delivery Models/Supports

The services range from VI itinerant services to students in general education classrooms; service in a VI special day program on a general education campus; itinerant services for students at a special education. Additional support services include Orientation and Mobility, braille transcription, and instructional aide braille assistance.

