

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT/BLINDNESS **RESOURCES AND STATE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Local Resources

Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

1750 S. Big Bend Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63117

314-776-1300

www.dgckids.org

Assessment services, individualized vision services, therapy services, center-based programs, home visits, family support. Also has Parent to Parent for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments.

Lutheran Library for the Blind

7550 Watson Road

St. Louis, MO 63119

314-918-0415

www.blindmission.org

Large collection of cassettes and Braille reading materials.

Midwestern Braille Volunteers

325 N. Kirkwood, Ste. G-5

St. Louis, MO 63122

314-966-5828

www.mbvoll.org

Transcription of printed matter to Braille with particular emphasis on textbooks for blind or visually impaired students.

Missouri Council of the Blind

5453 Chippewa

St. Louis, MO 63109

314-832-7172

www.missouricounciloftheblind.org

Works with and for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Missouri School for the Blind

3815 Magnolia

St. Louis, MO 63110

314-776-4320

www.msb.k12.mo.us

Nationally accredited program for kindergarten through high school, ages 5 to 21. Outreach services include functional vision assessments, consultation, inservice training, parent involvement program.

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

North Office

9900 Page Ave, Suite 105

St. Louis, MO 63132-1431

314-877-1532

South Office

3867 Magnolia Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63110

314-933-7311

www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/

Vocational training, post-secondary education, instruction in orientation and mobility, Braille and other communication skills.

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired

8770 Manchester Road

St. Louis, MO 63144

314-968-9000

www.slsbvi.org

Independent living skills training to adults; adaptive equipment at cost.

Therapeutic Horsemanship

332 Stable Lane

St. Charles, MO 63385

636-332-4940

www.thstl.org

University of Missouri-St. Louis School of Optometry – Center for Eye Care

One University Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63121-4499

314-516-5606

www.umsl.edu/~optometry/clinics/cecpage.html

Provides vision exams on sliding scale, optics at lower cost.

Parent Handbook — Section IV

State Resources

National Federation of the Blind of Missouri
3910 Tropical Lane
Columbia, MO 65201
573-874-1774
www.nfbmo.org
Consumer organization seeks to influence public and private policies related to blindness; referrals to other agencies.

Wolfner Memorial Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Missouri State Information Center
P.O. Box 387
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387
800-392-2614
www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/
Books and magazines on recorded audio cassettes; loans cassette players; free mail library service to the user's home.

National Resources

American Council of the Blind (ACB)
www.acb.org

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)
www.afb.org
www.braillebug.org
Information and consultation; catalogs of publications and products.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH)
www.aph.org
Publishes and distributes books (Braille, large type, music), computer products, educational toys and equipment.

Blind Children's Fund
www.blindchildrensfund.org
Clearinghouse of information on education and welfare.

Braille International Inc.
www.brailleintl.org
Mail order bookstore for children of all ages; also offers a few products.

Division on Visual Impairments
Council for Exceptional Children
www.cecdvi.org/index.htm

The Lighthouse National Center for Vision and Child Development
The Sol and Lillian Goldman Building
www.lighthouse.org
Develops educational materials; low vision product catalog; "EnVision" newsletter.

National Association for Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI)
www.spedex.com/napvi
Support and service to parents of children of all ages; quarterly newsletter "Awareness."

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
800-424-8567
www.loc.gov/nls
Free library service for Talking Books recorded and played on a free loaned cassette player.

Online Resources

Family Village
<http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu>
Library (click on first letter of a specific disability in the card catalog to go to resources)

National Dissemination Center of Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)
<http://nichcy.org>

Assistive Technology

Missouri Assistive Technology
800-647-8557
www.at.mo.gov
Information and referral regarding assistive technology products, services and policy/funding issues. Training, demonstrations, advocacy.

Parent Handbook — Section IV

Examples of assistive technology products for people with visual impairments:

Braille embossers/printers
Braille-to-text translation software
Braille music translation software
cursor enlargers
CCTV
note takers
screen magnifiers/large print
scanners/reading systems
screen readers
tactile image generation/enhancement
voice synthesizers
web browsers

C. The visual impairment adversely affects the child's educational performance.

DEFINITION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FROM APPENDIX A OF THE MISSOURI STATE PLAN

Visual Impairment/Blindness Definition

Visual Impairment, including blindness, means an impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness.

Criteria for Initial Determination of Eligibility

A child displays a Visual Impairment when:

A. A visual impairment or a progressive vision loss has been diagnosed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist:

B. Visual acuity has been determined to be:

- 1) for visual impairment, of 20/70 to 20/200 in the better eye with best correction by glasses;
- 2) for blindness, of 20/200 or less in the better eye after best correction by glasses or a visual field measuring 200 or less.