

NEW ENGLAND CONSORTIUM OF DEAFBLIND PROJECTS

CONNECTICUT DEAFBLIND PROJECT ▲ MAINE DEAFBLIND PROJECT ▲ MASSACHUSETTS DEAFBLIND PROJECT
▲ NEW HAMPSHIRE DEAFBLIND PROJECT



*A Group of Federal Technical Assistance Projects designed
to Improve Services for Children who are Deafblind*

Collaborative partners with
the New England Deafblind Consortium
(Formally the New England Center Deafblind Project)
175 North Beacon Street ■ Watertown, MA 02472
Tel: 617.972.7515 ■ www.necdbp.org

The Project is funded by the United States Department of Education, Special Education Programs, under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), to assist State education Agencies in developing their capacity to adequately serve children who are deafblind.

Available Technical Assistance/Consultation

- On-site, regional and multi-state training relative to “effective Practices” in deafblind education
- Child-specific consultation to team members working with children who are deafblind
- Consultation specific to family issues, particularly in the area of advocacy training and self-determination
- Community resources and evaluation referral
- Information dissemination

Eligibility

The Project defines deafblindness as follows:

“Children and youth having auditory and visual impairments, the combination of which creates such severe communication and other developmental and learning needs that they cannot be appropriately educated in special education programs solely for children and youth with hearing impairments, visual impairments or severe disabilities, without supplementary assistance to address their educational needs due to these dual, concurrent disabilities.”

Eligibility Chart and Classification Codes

		Degree of Vision Loss					
		Normal 20/12 – 20/40	Near Normal 20/40 – 20/70 or field loss of 10° >	Low Vision 20/70 – 20/200 or field loss of 10° or >	Legally Blind 20/200+	Legally Blind with Light Perception	Totally Blind or No Light Perception
Degree of Hearing Loss	Normal 0-25 dB						
	Mild 26-40 dB					C	*
	Moderate 41-55 dB		A	B		D	*
	Moderately Severe 56-70 dB						*
	Severe 71-90 dB						*
	Profound 91 dB or greater						*
	Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD)						*

Who is Eligible for Technical Assistance?

Individuals from birth to age 22 who have any combination of the disabilities described below resulting in the need for specialized services are eligible for services outlined within the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Part C, Section 622, 307.11. The following descriptions and classification codes apply to the chart.

- A. Individuals who may have multiple disabilities due to generalized nervous system dysfunction, with documented hearing loss and vision loss. The child's etiology may be progressive in nature.
- B. Individuals who have sensory loss of both vision and hearing (low vision; mild to moderate hearing loss).
- C. Individuals who have a sensory loss of both vision and hearing, one of which is severe and the other less severe (20/200 acuity or greater; 71-90 dB or greater).
- D. Individuals who have sensory loss of both vision and hearing (low vision to total blindness; moderate to profound hearing loss).
- E. Individuals who have significant sensory loss of both vision and hearing (legal blindness; severe or profound deafness).
- * Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD): Individuals who have difficulty with auditory perception of spoken language and other meaningful sounds in their environment. Such a diagnosis must be confirmed by an audiologist.
- * Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI): Individuals who have a documented visual impairment caused by the disturbance of the posterior visual pathways and/or the occipital lobes of the brain. The degree of visual impairment can range from minor visual impairment to total blindness.

MISSION STATEMENT

To build and strengthen a collaborative system that enables infants and children who are deafblind to participate meaningfully in their homes, schools and communities.

