

WCED Special Education Blind & Visually Impaired Services

The West Central Education District provides special education service to students with a documented visual impairment.

Program Criteria

The student must demonstrate both items A and B:

- A. a documented current medical diagnosis, within MDE standards, as having a condition that meets the state criteria as blind/visual impairment by a licensed eye specialist.
- B. a documented educational need(s) by a licensed teacher of the visually impaired based upon the results of a current Functional Vision Assessment (FVA).

Teacher of the Blind & Visually Impaired Services

The Teacher of the Blind/Visually Impaired works as a team member with students, families, and teachers to implement individual education plans for each student from birth to age 21 or upon high school graduation.

Available services include:

Conduct Functional Vision Assessments, IEP team membership, provide general or student specific program Inservice.

Provide resource information to families regarding specific eye diseases and related syndromes.

Provide educational consultation to determine a need for instructional materials, including adaptation of curriculum to large print, braille, tactile graphics, assistive technology, or other alternative forms which convey concepts being taught by the classroom teacher.

Provide instruction of UEB Braille code as a primary reading and writing program.

Provide access to assessed appropriate forms of assistive technology including computers, software, video magnification systems and Braille technology to support a students inclusion to their home, school, and community.

Orientation and Mobility Specialists are available for assessment, consultation and direct teaching of specific skills needed for safe, efficient and independent travel throughout their environments.

Staff Contact Information:

Glen Hoppe, Licensed Teacher of the Blind & Visually Impaired, TBVI. 352-6521