

Assurances Definitions

To access the AIM Library and APH Materials, student **MUST** meet one the following visual criteria's:

A. MDB=Meet the definition of blindness—a central visual acuity of 20/200(Snellen chart or acuity in Snellen equivalents) in the better eye with the best correction or a peripheral field of vision no greater than 20 degrees,

OR

B. FDB=Function at the definition of blindness—When visual performance is reduced by a brain injury or dysfunction when visual function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist or neurologist. Students in this category manifest unique visual characteristics often found in conditions referred to as neurological, cortical, or cerebral visual impairment.

OR

C. IDEA=Qualify under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act definition of blindness: an impairment in vision, that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. IF the student is NEITHER MDB or FDB, they may be eligible if they qualify under the IDEA definition as it includes partial sight (visually impaired) and blindness. (34 CFR §300.8(c)(13). Student must be on an IEP, 504 does not qualify.

A Written education plan and a current medical eye report must be on file at the LEA for student.

Students must be in a formally organized written educational program, public or private, which may be an IEP(for MDB, FBD or IDEA students), a 504 plan or other written action plan(only for MDB and FDB students), at less than college level. Medical Report from an ophthalmologist or an optometrist must be on file at LEA and should be updated every three (3) years. Exemptions from the 3 year updated report would be students with documented non-changing eye conditions, or other conditions determined immutable. A report from a neurologist, etc., is acceptable for students with neurological, cortical (CVI), or cerebral visual impairment (e.g brain injury or dysfunction).

The following assessment must be considered for blind and visually impaired student:

LMA=Learning Media Assessment The learning media assessment is to determine the most effective medium for accessing instruction and teaching methods. A licensed teacher of students with visual impairments completes this assessment.

FVA=Functional Vision Assessments The functional vision assessment includes a variety of evaluations and determines how a student will access their visual environment. A licensed teacher of students with visual impairments completes the assessment; contributions from the students' Orientation and Mobility specialist are helpful.

LVE=Low Vision Evaluation A clinical low vision evaluation assesses whether or not a child will benefit from optical devices such as monocular telescopes and/or magnifiers. An optometrist or ophthalmologist who specializes in low vision and the prescription of optical devices performs the clinical low vision evaluation.

ATA=Assistive Technology Assessments Technology assessments address a student's need for products that will increase, maintain, or improve their functional abilities. A licensed teacher of students with visual impairments or assistive technology specialist completes the assessment.

OMA=Orientation and Mobility Assessment An O&M assessment examines the student's ability to travel safely both in school and outdoors, and with or without assistance. A certified O&M specialist will conduct the assessment.

TILSA=Transition Plan and Independent Living Skill Assessment (if age appropriate) The purpose of the transition assessment, to be in effect by age 16, is to measure age-appropriate postsecondary goals related to training, education, employment, and, where appropriate, independent living skills.