

# Kendall County Special Education Cooperative VISUAL IMPAIRMENT PROGRAM

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Visual impairment program is to provide quality itinerant services to children with visual impairments whose educational functioning is impacted as a result of a vision loss, blindness, or degenerative vision condition. The goal is to coordinate and facilitate each child's educational plan in all areas impacted by low vision or blindness.

## **Program Goals**

- To identify students who have educational needs related to a visual impairment.
- To provide instruction to the visually impaired student in issues related to his/her visual impairment.
- To identify and provide materials and/or equipment that offer access to the educational curriculum.
- To assist and support school staff in the development of educational accommodations, modifications, and/or adaptations that will facilitate the student's learning and maximize participation in the school program.
- To assist families with their child's needs related to their visual impairment.

## **Entrance Criteria**

- Medical documentation of ocular status.
- Determination of special education eligibility due to a vision impairment related to reduced visual field, changing or degenerative eye conditions, blindness, and/or cortical visual impairment.
- Determination that the visual impairment has an adverse effect on educational performance.
- A determination by the school-based IEP team that the student's needs require the intervention and support of a vision itinerant teacher.

## **Exit Criteria**

- A student may exit the Visual Impairment program based upon the school-based IEP team's determination that the services of the VI itinerant teacher are no longer required.

- Students will exit the Visual Impairment program upon acceptance of a high school diploma or reaching the age of 22.
- A student will exit the Visual Impairment program upon the determination that he/she is no longer eligible for special education services.
- A student may exit the Visual Impairment program if the parent chooses to discontinue services.

### **Available Visual Impairment Programs**

- Visual Impairment Itinerant Services. These services are provided to students with visual impairments in their general and/or special education settings. The itinerant teacher may provide direct services to the student; consult and collaborate with teachers and related service personnel; initiate and monitor accommodations, modifications, and adaptations to the curriculum and environment; and facilitate communication between home and school.

Related services are provided to Visual Impairment program students according to their IEP.