

Sensory Support: Vision Program

Students Served: Students with a visual impairment

Grades: PK3-12

Program Lead: Manager, Low Incidence Disabilities

The goal of the DCPS Vision Program is to provide supports and instruction that target the unique challenges experienced by students who are blind or visually impaired. Instruction is based on best practices and is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and Expanded Core Curriculum.

Academic Programming

The functional vision learning media assessment (FVLMA) provides information on the educational impact of the student's vision impairment, including near and distant visual functioning, assistive technology (AT), and visual fields. It also assesses the student's ability to access and use different learning media in reading and writing. This may include Braille, large print, AT, and auditory materials. An eye medical report is required to determine if an assessment is needed. The FVLMA are used in conjunction with other assessment tools such as; the eye report, psychological, educational, and classroom observations to determine eligibility. Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Instructors and Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments (TSVI) monitor progress on student goals regularly and contribute ongoing information to the team's existing data when re-evaluation is conducted. If there are concerns that a student has a visual impairment, the school's LEA should email the Manager for Low Incidence Disabilities for further directions on how to make a referral.

Student Profile

The DCPS Vision Program serves eligible students ages 3-22, who require specialized instruction and support with a variety of visual impairments.

Student Profile	
Most common primary disability served	Visual impairment, deaf-blindness
Related Services	Per IEP
Graduation	Students either earn a diploma or a certificate of IEP completion.

Additional Programming

DCPS also partners with the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) to connect students with disabilities to employment opportunities. All students who are interested in working and have a documented disability can apply at their local school through their case manager. RSA will then meet with students to determine eligibility for services to support them in their pursuit of employment.

Staff Profile

Teacher certification and experience

Students receive support from an itinerant teacher of students with visual impairments (TSVI) in their neighborhood schools or special education settings. In addition, students are taught skills that promote independence for them to succeed inside and outside the classroom. An Orientation and Mobility

(O&M) Instructor is a related service provider that provides itinerant services focusing on spatial and environmental concepts as well traveling safely, confidently and independently in the student's environment.