

03.04.13 Blind or Visually Impaired (B/VI)

Before you begin...

The information included in the check boxes below is taken from a state rule. Consult [MN Rule 3525.1345](#) for complete details on the requirements of this disability category.

Definition

"Blind or Visually Impaired" (B/VI) means a medically verified visual impairment accompanied by limitations in sight that interfere with acquiring information or interaction with the environment to the extent that special education instruction and related services may be needed.

Disability Category Criteria

Based on information in the Evaluation Report and the student file, the student **must meet the requirements in boxes 1 and 2 below**. The determination must be made by a multidisciplinary team and supported by information collected from multiple settings and sources. The "Eligibility Determination" must have one of the buttons selected for the checklist to be considered complete.

1. Blind or Visually Impaired

The student file must include documentation of visual impairment by licensed eye specialist in at least one of the following:



Visual acuity of 20/60 or less in better eye with best conventional correction estimation of acuity for difficult to test pupils. For pre-kindergarten, measured acuity must be significantly deviant from what is developmentally age-appropriate



Visual field of 20 degrees or less or bilateral scotomas



Congenital or degenerative condition:
(e.g., progressive cataract, glaucoma, retinitis pigmentosa)

2. Functional Evaluation

The student file must include at least one functional evaluation of visual abilities. At least one area must be evaluated by a teacher of the visually impaired.



Limited ability in accessing program appropriate educational media without modifications



Limited ability to access a full range of program appropriate materials or media without accommodating actions such as changes in posture, body movement, squinting, focal distance, etc.



Variable visual ability due to environmental factors that can't be controlled , such as contrast, color, movement, or weather.



Reduced or variable visual ability due to visual fatigue or eye condition factors

Save

Eligibility Determination

To determine eligibility, one of the following MUST be checked.

- The documentation supports the team decision that the student is eligible.
- The documentation supports the team decision that the student is ineligible.
- The documentation does not support the team decision that the student is eligible.