

### 03.04.03 Deaf/Blind (DB)

#### Before you begin...

The information included in the check boxes below is taken from a state rule. Consult [MN Rule 3525.1327](#) for complete details on the requirements of this disability category.

#### Definition

"Deaf/Blind" (DB) means medically verified visual loss coupled with medically verified hearing loss, that together, interfere with acquiring information or interacting in the environment. Both conditions need to be present simultaneously, and the pupil must meet the criteria for both visually impaired and deaf and hard of hearing to be eligible for special education services under this category.

#### Disability Category Criteria

Based on information in the Evaluation Report and the student file, the student **must meet the requirements in boxes 1 OR 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 and Deaf

Documentation exists to verify that the student meets criteria for **both** disability areas:

- Visual Impairment **and**
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## 2. Pupils at Risk

**If no documentation is present for either visual impairment or deaf and hard of hearing, then ONE of the following must be documented:**

- is already identified as deaf or hard of hearing or visually impaired but has not yet had a medical or functional evaluation of the other sense (vision or hearing)
- has an identified condition that includes a potential deterioration of vision or hearing in the future, such as Usher syndrome or optic atrophy
- has a medically or functionally identified hearing loss and a verified deficit in vision determined by a functional evaluation in the learning environment
- has a medically or functionally identified vision impairment and verified hearing loss determined by a functional evaluation in the learning environment.
- has an identified syndrome or condition that includes hearing and vision loss in combination with multiple disabilities (e.g. CHARGE Syndrome)

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.

