

## **Definition:**

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A child/student with vision impairment shall have a deficiency in visual acuity and/or visual field and/or visual performance where, even with the use of lenses or corrective devices, he/she is prevented from receiving reasonable educational benefit from general education. The term “visual disability” does not include children/students who have learning problems which are primarily the result of visual perceptual and/or visual motor difficulties.

## **Criteria:**

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The child/student meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Requirement for Braille and/or adaptation of educational material, or
- Requirement of specialized methods, aids, and/or equipment for learning, literacy, and/or mobility.

A vision disability shall be one or more of the following:

- Visual acuity of no better than 20/70 in the better eye after correction.
- Visual field restriction to 20 degrees or less.
- A physical condition of visual system which cannot be medically corrected and as such affects visual functioning to the extent that specially designed instruction is needed. These criteria are reserved for special situations such as, but not restricted to, oculomotor apraxia, cortical visual impairment, and/or a progressive visual loss where field and acuity deficits alone may not meet the aforementioned criteria.

## CDE Resources & Information

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[www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-BLV.asp](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/SD-BLV.asp)

Colorado Department of Education has a variety of resources and additional links to information regarding education and visual impairment in the state of Colorado, including great resources for parents, families, and students.

## Additional Resources and Information

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<http://www.afb.org/>

American Foundation for the Blind: Information about braille, education, technology, employment, Mentors, family support and more.

<http://www.afb.org/braillebug/>

American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) **Braille Bug** is a kids' site that teaches sighted children grades 3 through 6 about **braille**, and encourages literacy among sighted and students with visual impairment.

<http://www.nbp.org/>

National Braille Press: Producer of braille books and fun reading and learning activities.

<http://www.seedlings.org/>

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is a 501(c)3 non-profit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to increasing the opportunity for literacy by providing high quality, low cost braille books for children. Sign up for book clubs and braille book activity fun.

<http://www.aph.org/>

American Printing House for the Blind

Good resource for parent, family, student, and professionals for educational and daily living products.

<http://www.lssproducts.com/>

LS&S Catalog of products for the visually impaired. Great site to purchase adaptive products for students with visual impairment.

<http://www.csdb.org/>

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind:

Go to **Programs link** and then to **School for the Blind** to read about Outreach services, short term placements and summer programs and activities for students in Colorado.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/>

Texas school for the Deaf and the Blind has an excellent resources section for the latest research and journal articles regarding specific visual impairments, technology, instructional ideas, and family support.

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl/>

Colorado Talking book library: A free service to Coloradans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical or learning disabilities whether permanent or temporary. CTBL provides recorded, Braille and large-print books and magazines as well as a small collection of descriptive videos.

<http://www.rfbd.org/>

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic® (RFB&D), a national nonprofit, volunteer organization, has been the leading accessible audiobook library for students with disabilities such as visual impairment or dyslexia that make reading standard print difficult or impossible for the last 60 years. With titles available in every subject area and grade level, RFB&D's digitally recorded audio textbooks on CD and downloadable audio textbooks help students challenged by the printed page.

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