

Who is eligible?

- *Meet the definition of blindness (MDB)* — a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less (using a Snellen chart or an acuity determined in Snellen equivalents) in the better eye with the best correction or a peripheral field of vision no greater than 20 degrees

OR

function at the definition of blindness (FDB)— when visual acuity is not possible to determine using the Snellen Chart and is the determination of an eye care specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) or other medical doctor such as a neurologist that this student meets the definition of blindness for **educational purposes**

- Be enrolled in a formally organized public or private, nonprofit educational program of less than college level and have a written education plan
- Adult students must be registered for at least 12 weeks of 20 hours per week documented instruction during the preceding calendar year (twelve weeks do not have to be consecutive).

Several factors to remember are:

- Students can be eligible if enrolled in home school programs that meet guidelines and/or procedures in effect within each individual state. Students must have a written education plan. A written education plan is not an IEP (individualized education plan), although an IEP can serve as the plan.
- Students must be currently working at less than college level.
- Students cannot be registered by two Federal Quota accounts.
- *A registration form should be completed and submitted to NIRC as soon as possible when new students arrive in your program.*
- *Complete registration form for partially sighted students so that materials can be loaned/borrowed if available*
- *NIRC operates as a repository*

How are eligible students counted?

For each student, the following information must be reported to APH:

- Last Name
- First Name
- Date of birth
- School district or agency enrolling the student
- Grade placement
- Function Level – Level of visual functionality code (MDB or FDB)
- Language – Primary Language of Learner – Primary language used for instruction in the classroom (required as of 2012 census)
- Primary reading medium(required)
- Secondary reading medium (required)
- Other reading medium (optional-defaults to N/A)
- pertinent optional information that helps with the census: e.g. last eye report date, etc.

Reporting Code	Definition
IP	Infants: Children of preschool age served by infant programs
PS	Preschool Students: Children of preschool age served by preschool programs
KG	Kindergarten Students: Children enrolled in kindergarten classes
01-12	Students of School Age: Determined by state law, in regular academic grades 1 through 12.
AN	Academic Non-graded: Students of school age, as determined by state law, who are working to acquire skills necessary for placement in a regular grade.
FC	Functional Curriculum Students: Students in Grades 01 – 12 working toward a graduation certificate or non-traditional diploma. Could include students in a vocational program.
TR	Transition Students: Students of school age, as determined by state law, in secondary instructional programs designed to supplement the traditional academic curriculum. Could include students in post-graduate programs at less than college level.
OR	Other Registrants: Students of school age, as determined by state law, who do not fall into any of the above placements (e.g., students enrolled in classes for nonacademic students)

Primary Language of Learner Codes:

Field choices: Instruction Language, not primary speaking language

- **English (EN)**
- **Spanish (SP)**
- **Other (OT)** (languages other than English and Spanish **used for instruction**)

Reading Media

Primary Reading Media and Reporting Codes (required field)

Reporting Code	Primary Reading Medium
V	Visual Readers: Student primarily using print as their instructional media
B	Braille Readers: Students primarily using braille as their instructional media
A	Auditory Readers: Students primarily using a reader or auditory materials as their instructional media
PRE	Prereaders: Students working on or toward a readiness level; infants, preschoolers, or older students with reading potential
N	Nonreaders/Symbolic Readers: Nonreading students; students not working on or toward a readiness level; students who do not demonstrate traditional print or Braille reading potential (symbolic readers); students who do not fall into any of the above categories

Secondary and Other (Third) Reading Medium and Reporting Codes (required field)

Reporting Code	Secondary Reading Medium
V	Visual: Students use print to some extent
B	Braille: Students use braille to some extent
A	Auditory: Students use a reader or auditory materials to some extent
NA	Not Applicable: Nonreaders, prereaders, or students with no additional reading media

Note: Please remember that you may not duplicate a reading medium in the primary and secondary reading media fields. Third reading mediums are not required.