Everything You Need to Know About the 2022 Legally Blind Registration

Terri Terrell & Crystal Patrick
Objectives

• Review eligibility criteria for the Federal Quota Program
• Review required documentation
• Review the NEW submittal process for the 2022 Legally Blind Registration
Purpose

Registered students determines the amount Federal Quota Allotment of APH funds for the fiscal year for eligible students
Eligibility Criteria

- Meets 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

- Functions at the definition of blindness (FDB) — when visual function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) or another medical doctor such as a neurologist. Students in this category manifest unique visual characteristics often found in conditions referred to as neurological, cortical, or cerebral visual impairment (e.g., brain injury, dysfunction).
Eligibility Criteria (cont.)

• Be enrolled in a formally organized public or private, nonprofit educational program of less than college level.

• Infants, preschool, and school-aged students must be enrolled with the registering school or agency on the first Monday in January. *(January 3, 2022)*
Documentation

• Signed Parent Permission Form *

• Current eye report *
  • Medical Addendum Form (as needed)
  • North Carolina Ophthalmological/Optometric Summary (as needed)
Parent Permission

NCDPI Exceptional Children Division/American Printing House for the Blind
Annual Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students
Parental Consent to Release Student Information

In order to register my child with the Exceptional Children Division at the North Carolina Department of
Public Instruction and the American Printing House for the Blind (APH), I hereby authorize __________________________ (name of school district, program or facility) to share my
child’s personally identifiable information as follows: Last name, first name, middle name, Date of Birth,
School District, Grade Placement, Medical Eye Report, Visual Function, Primary and Secondary Reading
Medium, IFSP/IEP area of eligibility, and cross reference of siblings also registered (to prevent duplication
of registration) with the following:

• Designated Ex-Officio Trustee for North Carolina
• Exceptional Children Division at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
• American Printing House for the Blind

I, __________________________ (print name), certify that I am the
parent(s)/guardian(s) of __________________________ (student’s full name),
whose date of birth is __________________________ (Month, Day, Year), and that s/he is a
dependent according to Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code if s/he is over eighteen years of age. I
understand that this release will remain in effect unless I move and enroll my child(ren) in a new Local
Education Agency (LEA) in North Carolina. I further understand that I can revoke this release in writing by
emailing the designated Ex-Officio Trustee at ncaph@dpi.nc.gov.

Medical Addendum

Dear __________________________,

“The Federal Act to Promote the Education of the Blind”, enacted by Congress in 1879, requires school
districts to have current (within 3 years) eye health care reports from an Optometrist, Ophthalmologist, or
Neurologist on file in school districts in order to be eligible to be counted in the Federal Quota program, and to
access learning materials from American Printing House for the Blind.

Visual acuities were not able to be obtained for the student listed below that you evaluated on _________
Because of this, it is necessary to request the following information to determine if this student meets the
Federal guidelines of legal blindness in order to be counted in the Federal Quota program.

Student Name: __________________________ DOB: __________________________

MEDICAL OFFICE TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

Based on the Exam Dated: __________________________ in your professional judgment, do you feel this person:

☐ Functions better than 20/200 corrected, in best corrected eye (Snellen equivalent)
   OR

☐ Meets the Definition of Blindness – “MDB”
   As defined in The Act: “Central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or
   a peripheral field so contracted that the widest diameter of such field subtends an angular distance no
   greater than 20 degrees;”
   OR

☐ Functions at the Definition of Blindness – “FDB”
   As defined in The Act: “When visual performance is reduced by a brain injury or dysfunction when visual
   function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist or neurologist.
   Students in this category manifest unique visual characteristics often found in conditions referred to as
   neurological, cortical, or cerebral visual impairment.”

Physician’s Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________
Physician’s Name (please print): __________________________
Registration Timeline

Pre-Registration Data Gathering Phase
  • December 2021
  • Spreadsheets will be sent to PSUs
  • Memo will be released to the state on January 3, 2022

Registration Phase
  • January 3, 2022 - February 14, 2022
Pre-Registration Data Gathering Phase

NCAPH Data Spreadsheets will be sent via an encrypted email* to the EC Director with TVI copied. This is the current data, it will be updated by the PSU and returned via encrypted/secure email.

Updates will include:

• Keep or Delete
• Grade Change
• Eye Report Date

*encrypted emails are necessary for protecting student information
# Updating Students

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<tr>
<th>Keep/Update</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Middle Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>District Name</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>PRM (Primary Reading Media)</th>
<th>SRM (Secondary Reading Media)</th>
<th>Parent Permission Signed</th>
<th>Date of Last Update</th>
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Registration Phase

Registration will open Jan 3, 2022 and close Feb 14, 2022.

Data submitted after the 14th will NOT be accepted.
Adding New Students

Registration of the Legally Blind Registry

The Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is used to calculate the amount of Federal Quota Funds designated for the purchase of educational materials for eligible students through the American Printing House for the Blind. Students in public and private schools, including home schools, are eligible to participate in this program. Up to 30 new students can be added each time this survey is taken. If more than 30 need to be entered, the survey will need to be taken additional times. Also, if there are NO eligible students to report, please note that in question 5 of this survey.

Please select from the following...

- Public School Unit (LEA/Charter School)
- Residential Care Facility
- Home School Student
- NC Infant Toddler Program Part C
- Private School

Enter the name of school or facility

Name of the person submitting this information

First Name

Last Name

Work Email Address

Please select one of the following options.

- We have no eligible students to report
- We are entering new students to the registry
Adding New Students

Please indicate the number of new students you are adding to the registry. Enter "0" if not applicable. Up to 30 can be entered at one time, enter the remaining by taking the survey additional times.

Student Information

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

Does the LEA have signed parental permission?

Yes

No
Adding New Students

Date of most recent eye report (mm/dd/yyyy)

Functional Visual Acuity for right eye
- Meets 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
- Functions at the definition of blindness (FDB) — when visual function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) or other medical doctor such as a neurologist. Students in this category manifest unique visual characteristics often found in conditions referred to as neurological, cortical, or cerebral visual impairment (e.g., brain injury or dysfunction).

Functional Visual Acuity for left eye
- Meets 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
- Functions at the definition of blindness (FDB) — when visual function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist (ophthalmologist or optometrist) or other medical doctor such as a neurologist. Students in this category manifest unique visual characteristics often found in conditions referred to as neurological, cortical, or cerebral visual impairment (e.g., brain injury or dysfunction).

Grade Code
Students of school age: Determined by state law, in regular academic grades 1 through 12

Primary Instructional Language of Learner
- English
- Spanish
- Other (please specify)

Primary Reading Media
- V - Visual Reader: Student primarily using print as their instructional media
- B - Braille Reader: Student primarily using braille as their instructional media
- A - Auditory Reader: Student primarily using a reader or auditory materials as their instructional media
- PRE - Prereader: Student working on or toward a readiness level; infants, preschoolers, or older students with reading potential
- SN - Nonreader/Symbolic Reader: Non-reading student; students not working on or toward a readiness level; students who do not demonstrate traditional print or Braille reading potential (symbolic reader); student who does not fall into any of the above categories
Adding New Students

Secondary Reading Media

V - Visual Reader: Student primarily using print as their instructional media

B - Braille Reader: Student primarily using braille as their instructional media

A - Auditory Reader: Student primarily using a reader or auditory materials as their instructional media

PRE - Prereader: Student working on or toward a readiness level; infants, preschoolers, or older student with reading potential

SN - Nonreader/Symbolic Reader: Non-reading student; student not working on or toward a readiness level; students who do not demonstrate traditional print or Braille reading potential (symbolic readers); student who does not fall into any of the above categories

Primary Eligibility on IEP

Visual Impairment incl. Blindness

Comments (e.g., Sibling in a set of multiples—twins, triplets—with same date of birth and similar name; student has permanent condition; etc.)
We thank you for your time spent taking this survey. Your response has been recorded.

Below is a summary of your responses

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Contact Information

- Email NC APH at NCAPPH@dpi.nc.gov
- Terri Terrell, APH ExOfficio 984-236-2581
- Crystal Patrick, APH ExOfficio Assistant 984-236-2617