

SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE BLIND AND VISION IMPAIRED IN FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Core Services

All elementary, middle, and high school sites serving students who are blind/vision impaired offer the same essential core services to students.

Instruction/Curriculum

- Follow Fairfax County Public Schools Program of Studies (POS) and Standards of Learning (SOL) as curriculum guidelines, other classroom curriculums such as the Life Skills Program and the Core Curriculum for Blind and Visually Impaired
- Provide instruction in compensatory skills such as concept development, spatial understanding, study and organizational skills, and speaking and listening skills
- Provide instruction in Braille, large print, print with the use of optical devices, regular print, tactile symbols, and recorded materials
- Provide adapted physical education

Continuum of Services

- Provide individualized instruction and/or small self-contained classes as defined in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Provide services ranging from monitor/consult level to direct instruction in the student's general educational setting
- Provide resource room for students who require a more intensive level of service at the secondary level
- Provide support to students who participate in general education classes through teacher consultations

Staff

- Provide services by certified teachers of the blind/vision impaired

Orientation and Mobility Services

- Provide instruction by certified teachers in orientation and mobility to instruct students in the development of skills and knowledge that enables the student to travel safely and independently

Related/Support Services

- Provide a variety of related services in order to meet the individualized needs of students. These services may include speech and language, physical therapy, occupational therapy, learning disability, emotional disability, autism, etc.
- Provide services and support from social workers, psychologists, and counselors

Technology

- Provide access to classroom computers by utilizing assistive technology such as screen enlargement and screen readers
- Provide appropriate low vision aids and training in visual efficiency, which may include magnifiers for near and distant viewing, closed circuit televisions (CCTV), personal notetakers, and talking calculators by working in conjunction with the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

Socialization

- Provide attention to unique needs of social interaction and independent living

Parent Education

- Provide educational, social, and support for parents related to vision impairments and its educational implications