

The West Virginia Department of Education implements a statewide project to provide services to children who are deafblind. The objectives of the West Virginia SenseAbilities Project focus on the provision of technical assistance and training to create appropriate educational opportunities for children who are deafblind and their families.

Definition of Deafblindness

Children with hearing and visual impairments occurring together, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational problems that they cannot be appropriately educated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or blindness, are considered deafblind.

Infants and toddlers who:

- from birth through age 2 are experiencing developmental delays in hearing and vision,
- have a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in developmental delays in hearing and vision, or
- are at risk of having substantial developmental delays in hearing and vision if early intervention services are not provided

Services Available

- ▶ Identification of children birth through 21 with combined vision and hearing loss in West Virginia
- ▶ Technical Assistance and training for families, interventionists, services providers and others based on mutually defined needs
- ▶ Targeted technical assistance based on individual student needs and requests.
- ▶ Information and resources on Deafblindness
- Deafblind Intervener training

Who can request Services?

Any parent, family member or care provider for a child, birth through 21 years, with Deafblindness, or any professional involved in providing services to such a child.