# Montana DeafBlind Project Referral Checklist

## How do I know when to refer a child?

Important note: The child does NOT need to be totally blind and/or totally deaf.

## Refer any child who has any one of these:

* [ ]  Vision loss ranging from low vision (20/70 in the best eye with correction) to blindness, or a documented progressive or functional loss, including Cortical Visual Impairment **AND**
	+ Hearing loss, which can be permanent or fluctuating, unilateral or bilateral, ranging from mild (26-40dB) to profound, or a documented progressive or functional loss.
* [ ]  A combination of these losses that impacts communication, development, and educational needs.
* [ ]  A diagnosed syndrome or pathology that impacts hearing and vision now or in the future.
* [ ]  Multiple disabilities that impact central processing abilities as demonstrated by inconclusive vision and hearing responses during evaluations or in their natural environment.

## Please note:

* Many students have additional disabilities or complex health care needs. (87% of children with deafblindness also have additional disabilities.)
* Students do NOT have to have deafblindness listed as an eligibility category on their IEP. (Federal IDEA Part C and Part B child counts include children as deafblind only when deafblindness is their single disability.)

To refer, or when in doubt, contact the Montana DeafBlind Project!

**Mailing address:** University of Montana/Rural Institute

32 Campus Drive

253 Corbin Hall

Missoula, MT 59812

**E-mail:** mtdeafblind@mso.umt.edu **Website:** [mtdeafblind.org](http://mtdeafblind.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/)

**Phone:** (406) 243-4936 **Fax:** (406) 243-2349 **Toll-free:** 1-800-732-0323