



## 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!

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