

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

December 14, 2022

INSTRUCTIONS: FEDERAL CENSUS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAFBLIND

The Missouri Deaf-Blind Technical Assistance Project (MoDBTAP) is conducting the yearly federally-mandated census of students who are DeafBlind (birth through 21 years of age) in the State of Missouri. The DeafBlind Census includes any student who has a documented combined vision and hearing loss (dual sensory loss). Students do not need to be legally blind nor do they need to have a severe to profound hearing loss to be registered for the Census. When both vision and hearing loss of any degree are present, register the student, even if the student was counted in the Child Count under a different disability category or they are not receiving Part B or Part C services from your local school district.

The annual DeafBlind Census qualifies families, educators, and/or service providers of students with combined vision and hearing loss for technical assistance, in-service training, and consultation at no cost.

All educational programs must reply concerning their program's status.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE CENSUS FORMS (Yellow Forms):

For electronic forms and additional guidance on student qualification, please see the gray box labeled "DeafBlind Census" on the MoDBTAP webpage at <https://msb.dese.mo.gov/outreach-services/assistance-project.html>.

If you have new children/students to report:

- Make one copy of the "MO DeafBlind Census Reporting Form" and the "Parent/Guardian Release of Information Form" for each new student to be reported. Complete and return the Census Reporting Form and the Parent/Guardian Release of Information Form (ROI) via one of the methods on the back of this sheet.
- If you are unable to get the ROI signed and returned by the due date, please send the Census Reporting Form without it and return the signed ROI as soon as possible, as this is required to be included on the Census.

If you have continuing children/students to report:

- Update the information on the enclosed pre-filled "2022 DeafBlind Census Reporting Summary" for each student and sign each sheet to confirm accuracy. Make one copy of the "Parent/Guardian Release of Information Form" for each student, obtain Parent/guardian signature and return both forms via one of the methods on the back of this sheet.

If you have a child/student who is no longer enrolled with your agency:

- If you need to remove a student from the census, fill out the bottom section of the student's provided "2022 DeafBlind Census Reporting Summary." Return the form via your preferred contact method on the back of this sheet.

If you do not have any new or continuing children/students to report:

- If you do not have students with combined vision and hearing losses to report, complete the "NONE TO REPORT FORM" and return it via one of the contact methods on the back of this sheet.

PLEASE NOTE: The term "**infants and toddlers with deafblindness**" means students, from birth through age 2, who 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.

Intervener Services- On the last page of the form, after school information, there is a question about whether or not the child is receiving "Intervener Services." Interveners provide access to information and communication and facilitate the development of social and emotional well-being for children who are Deaf-Blind. In educational environments, intervener services are provided to a student, typically by a paraprofessional, who has received specialized training in deafblindness and the process of intervention. An intervener provides consistent one-to-one support to a student who is deaf-blind (age 3 through 21) throughout the instructional day. MoDBTAP provides training free of cost to paraprofessionals through the Open Hands, Open Access (OHOA): Deaf-Blind Intervener Learning Modules with coaching support.

Completed forms should be returned via one of the contact methods below no later than **February 1, 2023**.

Email: Mandy.Clayton@msb.dese.mo.gov

Mail: Missouri School for the Blind
MoDBTAP
ATTN: Mandy Clayton
3815 Magnolia Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110-4099

Should you have any questions, including qualification of a student's condition(s), contact Mandy Clayton at 314-633-1553 or Mandy.Clayton@msb.dese.mo.gov. Thank you in advance for your prompt response!

Sincerely,

Amanda Clayton

Mandy Clayton, Deaf-Blind School Support Specialist
Missouri School for the Blind
Missouri Deaf-Blind Technical Assistance Project



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