



Missouri Eligibility Criteria for Deaf/Blindness

Deaf/Blindness Definition

“Deaf/Blindness” means concomitant hearing and visual impairments, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or children with blindness.

Criteria for Initial Determination of Eligibility

A child is deaf/blind when:

- A. Both visual and hearing impairments are present as described in the criteria for Hearing Impairment/Deafness and Visual Impairment/Blindness, and
- B. The impairments together cause severe communication, developmental, and educational needs.

Missouri Eligibility Criteria can be found in the Missouri State Plan for Special Education, Regulation III- Identification and evaluation; <http://dese.mo.gov/governmental-affairs/dese-administrative-rules/incorporated-reference-materials/IDEAPartB-2014>