



Information for New TSVIs

Vision Mentorship Program | Outreach Access Services

WSSB Vision Mentorship Program

Welcome to your new adventure of being a TSVI in Washington State! Here are a few resources to help you navigate services for blind and low vision students. Please contact your Vision Mentor & Grant Program team if we can help.

[Vision Grant and Mentorship Program | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

Joe Dlugo: joe.dlugo@wssb.wa.gov

Kirsten Dlugo: kirsten.dlugo@wssb.wa.gov

Colleen Johnson: colleen.johnson@wssb.wa.gov

Kathryn Kier: kathryn.kier@wssb.wa.gov

Annie Stockton: annie.stockton@wssb.wa.gov

How do I sign up for the EVE Listserv?

EVE is a statewide listserv for everyone who serves blind and low vision students in Washington State.

This Listserv is open to all educators and service providers of blind and low vision children.

To subscribe, please follow the steps below:

1. Go to the EVE website: [EVE | Washington State School for the Blind](#) and click on Subscribe or Unsubscribe.
2. You will receive a confirmation email from the listserv. Be sure to respond to confirm your subscription.

How do I order materials for my students?

Many materials we use for our students with blindness and low vision, such as Perkins Brailers, paper, technology, etc., are available at no charge to school districts. Items like Brailers and technology are available on loan (non-consumable) while many other items never need to be returned (consumable).

Districts need to have an account with the **Ogden Resource Center (ORC)** in order to access materials. A description of the ORC is here: [Ogden Resource Center | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

1. The district must have an account holder: The Account Holder is often the Special Education Director or Administrative Assistant. The form to set up an account or change the account holder is here:

[AccountHolderRegistrationForm.docx \(live.com\)](#)

2. Students must be registered: Parent permission is required before a student can be registered.

- Parent permission must have a signature (not typed) on the following form [ParentPermission.docx \(live.com\)](#) which can be emailed to irc@wssb.wa.gov for processing or mailed to the ORC. An electronic signature form is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ORCParentPermission>. The form is available in many languages here: [Ogden Resource Center | Washington State School for the Blind](#)
- Once the ORC receives a parent permission form, they will add the student to the account. The account holder or designee will then fill in the rest of the student information.

3. Ordering materials in ORC Online: Materials need to be ordered under a student name. Searching in ORC Online includes several options. The catalog number search works well if you put in the middle part of the catalog number, for example, type 1947 to search for catalog #B-A1947-00. Also, when searching ISBN numbers, remove all dashes. ORC Online: [Orc \(wa.gov\)](#)

4. What materials are available? Materials available can be browsed in the APH catalog. Most (but not all) of these items are available through the ORC. The

catalog numbers listed in the catalog are how you can search for materials in ORC online.

- Catalogs are available to order in print and available in an accessible format online. To order a catalog or view the catalog online: [APH Catalogs: Products, Parts and APH Press | American Printing House](#)

How do we get stuff for “free”?

These materials are available through the **Federal Quota** program. Learn more about how this system works: [About Federal Quota | American Printing House \(aph.org\)](#).

These funds are used to purchase materials through the **American Printing House for the Blind (APH)**: [APH Home | American Printing House](#)

****A MORE COMPLETE VERSION OF THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE HERE:**
[Welcome to the Ogden Resource Center 0.docx \(live.com\)](#)

How do I access Large Print, Digital, Braille and Audio books for my students?

Bookshare: Bookshare offers digital books to qualifying students. Books can be read through audio or customizable large print.

[Bookshare | An Accessible Online Library for people with print disabilities](#)

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL): The WTBBL provides books in Braille on loan through the mail. Audiobooks are available through the mail on a cartridge that works with a special player, or through downloads in the BARD app.

<https://www.wtbbl.org/>

Ogden Resource Center: The ORC can help teachers access braille, large print, and digital books for students. Please refer to the ORC info sheet for more information on how this works: [Welcome to the Ogden Resource Center 0.docx \(live.com\)](#)

How do I get support for the technology TSVIs use with students?

Outreach Access Technology Services: The technology project provides consultative and direct instruction services to WSSB and the local school districts. Collaborations are available to the local school district at no charge.

[Statewide Technology and STEM Services | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

What other resources are available in Washington?

WSDS: Washington Sensory Disabilities Services (WSDS) is a State Needs Project funded by the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. WSDS assists children who are deaf or hard of hearing, blind or with low vision, or deafblind, by providing assessment services, training and other support to children, school districts, families and service providers. WSDS staff are located statewide.

<https://www.wsdsonline.org/>

Department of Services for the Blind: Department of Services for the Blind has services for youth, primarily starting at age 14.

<https://dsb.wa.gov/our-services/youth-services>

NWABA: NW Association for Blind Athletes' mission is to provide life-changing opportunities through sports and physical activity to individuals who are blind and low vision.

[Enriching Lives Through Sports | Northwest Association for Blind Athletes \(nwaba.org\)](#)

Special Education Technology Center (SETC): Located at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, the SETC has a lending library that includes some of the more expensive APH materials including the MATT Connect.

[Central Washington University | Assistive Technology Lending Library \(cwu.edu\)](#)

Northwest Center for Assistive Technology Training (CATT-NW)

CATT-NW is a new program housed at WSSB and funded by APH that provides assistive technology training to teachers of blind/low vision children.

How does the Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB) work?

On-campus program for students in grade 6-12: WSSB offers both day and residential student services. Students who live within 45 miles or one hour from the school will reside at home and are day students. Parents wishing to enroll their child as a resident student may request such placement through the IEP process as part of the need for more intensive residential services.

<https://irwin.wssb.wa.gov/>

Short Courses: Available to students state-wide, short programs through WSSB for B/LV students. Some programs will be in person and on campus and others will be online.

<https://irwin.wssb.wa.gov/services/short-courses>

Living Independently for Today and Tomorrow (LIFTT): The purpose of the LIFTT Program is to provide participants with an opportunity to experience and practice independence in a teaching environment before they venture into more independent settings as young adults. This is a program in a separate building on the WSSB Vancouver campus for students ages 18+.

[LIFTT | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

Outreach: The Outreach Department provides several vital services to students and staff outside of the WSSB campus. Our mission is to fill the gaps of service that may be needed in school districts around the State of Washington and to continue to develop new strategies to better serve students who are blind or low vision. Our department has teachers positioned within all regions of Washington State.

[Outreach | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

Birth to 3 Services: The Washington State School for the Blind's Birth to 3 Program is committed to providing specialized services for infants and children who are diagnosed with low vision or blindness, no matter where they live in the state.

[Birth to Three | Washington State School for the Blind](#)

****This information sheet is based on the wonderful resource created by Jennifer Merry and Pam Parker: [Welcome Vision Professionals.docx \(live.com\)](#) Please see this document for more in-depth information!****

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