



1                   (2) Inform, teach, and assess children who are blind, visually impaired, or  
 2                   deaf-blind relative to the body of knowledge and skills unique to students with  
 3                   blindness, visual impairment, and deaf-blindness including but not limited to the  
 4                   following:

5                   (a) Compensatory skills.

6                   (b) Access to reading and writing in the form of braille, large print, and  
 7                   tactile graphics or symbols.

8                   (c) Orientation and mobility skills.

9                   (d) Social interaction skills.

10                  (e) Independent living skills.

11                  (f) Recreation and leisure skills.

12                  (g) Career education.

13                  (h) Assistive technology.

14                  (i) Sensory efficiency skills.

15                  (j) Self-determination.

16                  (3) Provide instruction by teachers qualified to teach blind students and  
 17                  access to braille materials and textbooks and assistive technology.

18                  (4) Teach orientation and mobility skills at the earliest possible age to blind,  
 19                  visually impaired, or deaf-blind students and continuously throughout their  
 20                  education.

21                  (5) Inform the parents or legal guardians of students who are blind, visually  
 22                  impaired, or deaf-blind of all State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education  
 23                  policies and regulations relative to placement considerations and options available  
 24                  to them and provide opportunities to parents and legal guardians to fully participate  
 25                  in the development and implementation of their child's Individualized Education  
 26                  Program and Section 504 Plan.

27                  (6) Ensure each Individualized Education Program team:

28                  (a) Provides for braille instruction and assistive technologies for students  
 29                  who qualify for such resources.

1                   **(b) Includes a communication plan in the Individualized Education Program**  
2                   **for each student that incorporates the student and his parents or legal guardians.**

3                   **(c) Includes a communication plan in each Individual Accommodation Plan.**

4                   **(7) Employ and train qualified resource personnel who are able to**  
5                   **communicate effectively and proficiently with each student in his modes of**  
6                   **communication.**

7                   **(8) Provide full support services by qualified professionals. The state**  
8                   **Department of Education shall collaborate with public school governing authorities**  
9                   **and education programs to ensure that braille materials and technical assistance are**  
10                  **available to support schools and programs in meeting the needs of students who are**  
11                  **blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind.**

12                  **(9) Provide students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind full**  
13                  **access to all programs in their educational settings.**

14                  **(10) Place students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind in a**  
15                  **classroom setting that is best suited to each student's individual needs, including but**  
16                  **not limited to social, emotional, and cultural needs, with consideration for the**  
17                  **student's degree and type of vision and hearing loss, academic level, modes of**  
18                  **communication, and learning style.**

19                  **(11) Provide students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind with**  
20                  **free, appropriate education across a full spectrum of educational programs and**  
21                  **activities.**

22                  **(12) Provide students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind with**  
23                  **comprehensive academics, opportunities, and activities to meet and associate with**  
24                  **their peers in the school environment and during school-sponsored activities and**  
25                  **events to achieve a well-rounded education.**

26                  **(13) Treat blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind students as equal, active,**  
27                  **and contributing members of their communities, classrooms, and schools or**  
28                  **programs.**

1                    C. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to create a right of action that  
2                    is not currently provided for in present law on behalf of an individual student or a  
3                    class of students for the failure of a particular public school or publicly funded  
4                    program to comply with any provision of this Section or to prevent the parent or  
5                    legal guardian of a student from filing a complaint as provided for by law.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_