

## VISION AND HEARING ACCOMMODATIONS

Instructor Fact Sheet: Teaching Students with Hearing Loss. Disability Resource Center, University of Florida.

[http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/documents/Hearing\\_Loss\\_Instructor\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/documents/Hearing_Loss_Instructor_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

Strategies for Teaching Students with Hearing Impairments.

<http://www.as.wvu.edu/~scidis/hearing.html>

Issues Regarding the Assessment of Vision Loss in Regard to Sign Language, Fingerspelling, Speechreading, and Cued Speech for the Student with Deafblindness. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired website.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/Outreach/seehear/archive/sign.html>

Making Text Legible::Designing for People with Partial Sight. Lighthouse International.

<http://www.lighthouse.org/accessibility/legible/>

Tips for a Successful Learning Environment for a Student With Hearing Loss. Itinerant Tools and Treasures. Resource Materials and Technology Center.

<http://www.fsdb.k12.fl.us/rmc/training/itinerant/tips.html>

Documenting Modifications in the IEP for a Student with Deafblindness. SEE/HEAR.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/Outreach/seehear/archive/modifications.html>

Considerations for Low Vision Students in a Classroom. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired website.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/Education/low-vision-student.htm>

Classroom Strategies for Regular Education Teachers who have Students with Visual Impairments. Texas School for the Visually Impaired website.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/Education/strategies.htm>

Tactile Learning Strategies for Children who are Deaf-Blind: Concerns and Considerations from Project SALUTE. Deaf-Blind Perspectives, Volume 8, Issue 2, Winter 2000-2001.

<http://www.tr.wou.edu/tr/dbp/pdf/dec00.PDF>

Strategies for Teaching Students with Vision Impairments.

<http://www.as.wvu.edu/~scidis/vision.html>

Functional Implications of Vision Conditions – Use the attached document there is no website link.

## **FUNCTIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF VISION CONDITIONS**

**ACHROMATOPSIA** (malformation of rods and cones; nonprogressive; nystagmus)

- decreased visual acuity
- defective color vision
- light sensitivity
- better near vision
- no visual field loss
  
- low vision aid
- sunwear or tinted lenses, visors
- good visual contrast
- dim illumination
- reading markers or windows

**ALBINISM** (lack of pigment; may be complete or incomplete; may be only eye - ocular albinism; nonprogressive; nystagmus; myopic or hyperopic)

- decreased visual acuity
- normal visual fields
- light sensitivity, difficulty with glare
  
- dim illumination
- large print materials
- good visual contrast
- sunwear or tinted lenses, visors
- avoid glare on working surfaces

**AMBLYOPIA** (suppression of visual image on retina; progressive)

- field loss
- decreased visual acuity
- difficulty with depth perception
- trouble with visual tracking
- double vision
  
- monocular clues for depth perception

- reading marker or window
- good visual contrast
- need to scan all areas of visual field
- preferred visual field

**ANIRIDIA** (failure of iris to develop fully; nystagmus; possible complication with glaucoma, cataracts, displaced lens)

- decreased visual acuity
- extreme light sensitivity
- may be restricted visual fields
- dim lighting, avoid glare
- restricted physical activity
- good visual contrast
- low vision aids or large print
- sunwear

**APHAKIA** (absence of lenses, possible secondary glaucoma, nonprogressive)

- peripheral field distortions
- reduced visual acuity
- poor depth perception
- loss of accommodation
- avoid glare
- good visual contrast
- preferred seating
- extra time for refocusing
- monocular cues for depth

**CATARACTS** (cloudiness of lens; progressive or nonprogressive; perhaps nystagmus)

- normal visual fields or scotomas
- blurred vision
- variable vision
- light sensitivity
- poor color discrimination
- average or dim lighting, avoid glare
- restricted physical activity
- magnification and/or large print
- good visual contrast
- sunwear

**COLOBOMA** (lack of tissue closure in choroid, iris, retina, optic nerve, optic disk; usually in lower part of eye)

- peripheral field loss
- variable visual acuity
- scotomas
- average or bright light preferred
- difficulty with depth perception
- visual fatigue
  
- low vision aids
- large print
- compensation for depth perception
- book stands
- typing
- good visual contrast
- taped books to supplement print

**DETACHED RETINA** (separation of retina from choroid; progressive or nonprogressive)

- varying visual field loss, scotomas
- loss of visual acuity may improve with surgery
- double vision following surgery
  
- magnification/large print
- scanning around blind spots
- eccentric viewing
- restricted physical activity

**DIABETIC RETINOPATHY** (changes in retina blood vessels causing hemorrhaging, possible retinal detachments; progressive)

- central field loss
- color vision loss
- variable visual field loss
- variable acuity
  
- low vision aids (magnifiers)
- bright or average lighting
- restricted physical activity
- large print

**GLAUCOMA** (increased intraocular pressure; progressive or nonprogressive)

- peripheral field loss
  - defective night vision
  - decreased/variable visual acuity
  - possible light sensitivity
  - visual fatigue
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- large print
  - good visual contrast
  - dim or average lighting, avoid glare
  - sunwear
  - variety of materials for acuity needs

### **HYPEROPIA** (farsightedness)

- visual acuity loss
  - difficulty focusing at nearpoint
  - visual fatigue
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- reading stand
  - short periods of close work
  - supplementation with taped materials
  - good visual contrast
  - vary print size as needed

### **MACULAR DEGENERATION** (degeneration of central retina; progressive and nonprogressive forms)

- central field loss
  - color vision reduced
  - possible light sensitivity
  - visual acuity reduced
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- large print
  - low vision aids
  - eccentric viewing
  - sunwear
  - good visual contrast
  - average or dim lighting, task lighting

### **MYOPIA** (nearsightedness)

- peripheral or central field loss possible
- night vision reduced
- difficulty with distance vision

- large print
- low vision aids
- master copy of board work or approach board
- front classroom seating
- reading stand
- taped materials or reader
- good visual contrast
- verbal cues
- possible restricted physical activity

**NYSTAGMUS** (involuntary eye movements, nonprogressive)

- reduced visual acuity
  - difficult fixation
  - null point
  - visual fatigue
  - difficulty tracking
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- large print
  - low vision aids
  - reading marker
  - eccentric viewing
  - short periods of close work
  - good visual contrast

**OPTIC ATROPHY** (degeneration of nerve tissue)

- peripheral or central field loss
  - night vision loss
  - reduced acuity
  - visual fatigue
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- bright or average lighting without glare
  - magnification
  - good contrast of materials
- short periods of close visual work

**OPTIC NERVE HYPOPLASIA** (underdeveloped optic nerve; unilateral or bilateral; nystagmus)

- poor visual acuity
- field loss

- functional accommodations may depend on area of field loss
- large print or low vision aids
- good visual contrast
- low visual clutter

**RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA** (migration of pigment into retina causing loss of acuity, degeneration of retina; progressive)

- night vision loss
- restricted peripheral visual fields
- blurred vision
- optic atrophy
  
- good lighting
- good visual contrast
- low vision aids
- large print
- taped materials or reader
- eccentric viewing/scanning
- reading marker

**RETINOPATHY OF PREMATURITY** (scar tissue on back of lens from excessive oxygen to premature infants)

- peripheral or central field loss
- may also have myopia, strabismus, nystagmus
- perceptual problems
- poor motor skills
  
- average or bright light without glare
- low vision aids
- large print
- good visual contrast

## **STRABISMUS** (muscle imbalances)

- may result in amblyopia
  - field loss on side of turned eye
  - reduced visual acuity
  - difficulty tracking
  - trouble with depth perception
  - difficulty with visual-motor skills
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- scanning visual field
  - preferred seating to one side of room
  - reading marker or window
  - monocular clues for depth
  - good visual contrast