



When and How to Refer a Student to Illinois DeafBlind Project

Any child or youth, aged birth – 21, with combined vision-hearing loss, can be referred for eligibility to Illinois DeafBlind Project. <https://www.philiprockcenter.org/ildbp>

Any child or youth who may be eligible for Illinois DeafBlind Project services should have:

- A diagnosed or suspected combined vision-hearing loss
- A condition for which vision and auditory impairments are common (e.g., CHARGE Syndrome)
- A condition in which there is a progressive loss of hearing and vision (e.g., Usher Syndrome)

Illinois DeafBlind Project eligibility is not tied to an IEP disability category. A referral can be made when combined vision-hearing loss is *suspected*. To make a referral, a “Referral for Illinois DeafBlind Project Eligibility” form must be submitted (signed by the parent or legal guardian) along with the most recent vision and hearing medical diagnostics or educational functional reports. This information is used to determine full project services eligibility.

- Illinois DeafBlind Project does not provide IEP or IFSP services
- Illinois DeafBlind Project creates technical assistance agreements with school teams serving students with a combined vision-hearing loss and their families
- Technical assistance helps adults in the lives of eligible children and youth to better support student learning and development.
- Illinois DeafBlind Project services, with rare exceptions, are free

For more information, contact Michelle Clyne, Project Coordinator, at the Philip J. Rock Center and School (630) 790-2474 or mclyne@philiprockcenter.org