



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

WWW.NCPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG

**TO** Directors, Exceptional Children Programs  
EC Coordinators, Charter Schools  
Directors, State-Operated Programs  
Directors, Private Educational Agencies

**FROM** William J. Hussey, Director ~~2017~~  
Exceptional Children Division

**DATE** January 4, 2017

**SUBJECT** **2017 ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF LEGALLY BLIND STUDENTS FOR FEDERAL QUOTA FUNDS**

It is time for the annual registration of students who qualify as legally blind. The Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is used to calculate the amount of Federal Quota Funds designated for the purchase of educational materials for eligible students through the American Printing House for the Blind. Students in public and private schools, including home schools, are eligible to participate in this program. Specifically, information gathered determines individual school allotment of federal funds for the following school year. Rules for eligibility include:

1. Student enrollment as of January 2, 2017
2. Written Education Plan, such as an IEP, 504 Plan, or any other written action plan
3. Current Eye Report within the past 3 years from an (a.) ophthalmologist or optometrist, which indicates the student meets the definition of blindness (i.e., central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or a peripheral field so contracted that the widest diameter of such field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees) or (b.) neurologist, which includes the Functions at the Definition of Blindness (FDB) classification; *Please note that school systems are responsible for maintaining up to date records in the case a federal or state audit occurs.*

Additional information regarding the Federal Quota Program may be found at <http://www.aph.org/federal-quota/>.

If your LEA entered students for the 2016 Registry, you will receive a copy of last year's information via a password protected email attachment, which will include your LEA's code as a password to open. Attachment information regarding previous student eligibility needs to be reviewed and updated using the Excel file, accessible at <http://ncaphregistry.ncdpi.wikispaces.net/2017+Annual+Registration>. All completed registrations must be submitted and password protected to [ncaph@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ncaph@dpi.nc.gov). If your LEA has no qualifying students, email Amy Campbell, Education Consultant for Visual Impairment, at [ncaph@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ncaph@dpi.nc.gov) and state your LEA name along with the phrase, "No Eligible Students."

The due date for submission of the Registry information is February 15, 2017. *The Rules for Eligibility* and instructions for completing the registration form are also accessible at the wikispace listed above. Please read the instructions carefully to ensure a smooth registration process.

Please note that the Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students is different from the Deaf-Blind Census. However, a student may qualify for both if the appropriate criteria is met. Information about the Deaf-Blind Census will be distributed in February 2017.

If you have questions or comments about the Annual Registration of Legally Blind Students, please contact Amy Campbell, 919-807-3988 or [ncaph@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ncaph@dpi.nc.gov).

## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

William J. Hussey, *Director* | [bill.hussey@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:bill.hussey@dpi.nc.gov)

6356 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6356 | (919) 807-3969 | Fax (919) 807-3243

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