How long is the learner certified as Deaf-blind?
The learner will need to meet the eligibility requirements and recertify every three years. A exceptional provisional one year certification may be given.

What are the documents need for the application?
An application may be obtained from the project website. In addition to the application, a vision and hearing report from within one year and a current IEP or IFSP will need to be submitted.

Who do I contact if we need help completing the forms?
Rebecca Obold-Geary
Kansas Deaf-Blind Project
1100 State Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66102
Ph. 913.305.3087
kansasdeafblind.kssdb.org

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Which learners qualify for the Kansas Deaf-Blind Registry?

Any infant toddler, child, or young adult who is between the ages of birth through 21 years of age AND who has a combination of the following vision and hearing losses:

- totally deaf and totally blind
- hard of hearing and totally blind
- visually impaired and hard of hearing
- any one of the above categories with additional disabilities

If the learner is certified, the learner will be included on the national and state deaf-blind census, is eligible to receive technical assistance by staff of the Kansas Deaf-Blind Project and considered a first priority for accessing the Kansas Deaf-Blind Fund administered by the Kansas Department of Education.

What is the criteria for the student who has a vision and hearing loss?

The learner’s current vision and hearing evaluation must indicate one or more of the following conditions in order for the learner to be certified as deaf-blind.

**Vision Loss**
- Correct visual acuity of 20/40 or less in the better eye with correction
- Ocular motor condition
- Anophthalmic
- Visual field of less than 40 degrees or less in the better eye
- Nystagmus
- Functionally blind or cortical vision loss
- Previous chronic condition that interferes with the visual learning mode

**Hearing Loss**
- 20 dB (or greater) sensorineural, conductive or mixed hearing loss across speech frequencies in the better ear with amplification
- Congenital malformations of the auricle
- Functionally deaf, central auditory processing loss, or auditory neuropathy
- Previous chronic condition that interferes with the auditory learning mode

At Risk

Any young child (0-3 years) who has an established certifiable loss in vision or hearing and is considered at risk for deaf-blindness. A provisional certification may be given.

Educational Eligibility

The learner’s sensory losses indicate the need for specialized supports and services related to vision and hearing.

Who conducts the evaluation?

Vision evaluations are to be completed by a board certified ophthalmologist or optometrist or a pediatric neurologist who specializes in visual losses or blindness. Hearing evaluations are to be completed by a certified audiologist that meets ASHA CCC requirements or a board certified otolaryngologist (ENT) or a pediatric neurologist who specializes in otolaryngology or a cochlear implant center if the student has a cochlear implant.