



# Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

## Instructional Resources Library

[www.tsbvi.edu](http://www.tsbvi.edu) | 512-454-8631 | 1100 W. 45<sup>th</sup> St. | Austin, TX 78756

---

## Characteristics of Types of Services for Infants Who are Blind or Low Vision

### Direct

1. Direct contact with the student and family--can occur in the home, daycare, etc.
2. Provide hands-on instruction and demonstration; remember that the purpose is to coach the family to work with the child.
3. Provide materials, adaptations
4. Provide information about the child's eye condition, vision, ophthalmological report, implications, strategies, etc. to the family
5. Provide initial and ongoing assessment
6. Assist family to support behaviors impacted by sensory needs
7. Instruction in compensatory skills:
  - Bonding with family
  - Communication: Receptive & Expressive
  - Motor: Gross, Fine, O&M/Early Movement
  - Sensory: Vision, Auditory, Tactual, Vestibular, Sensory Integration
  - Self-Help: Eating & Drinking, Dressing & Undressing, Toileting, Personal Hygiene, Sleeping Patterns
  - Cognition: Object Exploration and Manipulation, Experience-Based Early Concept Development, Problem-Solving
  - Family Needs
  - Pre-Braille/Tactile Symbols
  - Social-Emotional
  - Large Print/Pictures/Books
  - Optical Devices
  - Adaptive Devices
- 8. ALWAYS INCLUDES CONSULTATION**
9. Conduct ongoing student observations in a variety of settings

### Consult

1. Consult with other professionals
2. Provide training to other professionals on implications and strategies
3. Conduct ongoing student observation in a variety of settings
4. Participate in initial and ongoing assessments
5. Provide recommendations for appropriate VI educational strategies and modifications
6. Provide and transport materials and equipment
7. Demonstrate teaching strategies

8. Provide parent training and support (meetings, workshops, socials, etc.)
9. Consult with O & M Instructor
10. Team with educational and related service staff and parents for planning and instruction
11. Coordinate with related agencies and community resources
12. Receive training as needed from other professionals for working effectively with baby and family (OT, PT, AI Teacher, Social Worker, Speech Path., etc.)

Developed by the TSBVI Outreach Department. Revised 2023