

Special Education Technology Center

inclusive insights & access tips

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Seeing Success: Supports for Students with Blindness and Low Vision

Explore a wealth of resources tailored to support educators working with low vision or blind learners. This network of contacts is available to aid in fostering inclusive practices by empowering educators with training and equipment and promoting accessibility for all learners. [Washington State School for the Blind](#) (WSSB) collaborates across the state with local school districts, Educational Service Districts, Early Intervention Provider Agencies, special and general education teachers, and families to ensure that blind, low vision, and deafblind students receive the necessary support to excel. Watch [this short video](#) for more information regarding WSSB's Outreach Access Services. [Washington Sensory Disabilities Services](#) (WSDS) partners with schools, families, and agencies to provide assessment services, training, and consultation for children and youth who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/low vision, or deafblind. Additionally, specialized AT equipment, such as the [Jupiter Portable Magnifier](#) and [Backlit Keyboard](#) are available for trial through [SETC](#), and [CATT NW](#). These resources are indispensable for educators striving to create inclusive and accessible learning environments that uphold every student's right to an enriching educational experience.



AAC and Vision

[Blackston et al. \(2021\)](#) studied how well services meet the needs of children with CVI using AAC. School-based professionals noted barriers like insufficient knowledge on CVI and AAC, limited access to training, and concerns about fragmented service delivery. Collaboration is key; teams should actively seek support from such professionals listed above. Additionally, SETC and WSSB will host a fall workgroup to ensure equitable support for low vision and blind learners.

Sharpen Your Skills

Interested in learning more about how to support your blind or low vision learners? Look no further! Joe Dlugo from WSSB's dives into the ever-evolving world of generative AI in his training, "[Casting New Light: AI's Transformative Role in Teaching Students with Blindness and Low Vision](#)". Learn more about [CVI and AAC](#) from Perkin's School for the Blind. Finally, join Krista Bulgar from WSSB in October to learn about the ever-important topic of "[Vision Accommodations on State Testing](#)."

Visionary Podcast Pick

In the current season of "[Awe and Wonder](#)," Sarah and Brenda engage with therapists, families, and experts to delve into firsthand experiences and considerations crucial in determining suitable Assistive Technology and AAC supports for visually impaired students who require AAC for communication. Tune in during those brief moments of your day — your commute or meal preparation — to gain insights from these invaluable perspectives!

new and notable

Upcoming webinar series :

[Communication Workgroup: Blending Perspectives on Vision, Speech & Motor](#)

Dates: 10/08, 11/12, 12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/08, 5/13, Time: 3:30-4:30, Facilitators: SETC & WSSB

[Communication for Students with Complex Needs: The Key to Success](#)

Presenters: Emma Packard and Kathee Scoggin.

Dates: Sept. 25, Oct. 2, Oct 9, Oct 23, Nov. 6, Nov 20, Dec. 4, Jan. 15, Jan 29, Feb. 12, Feb 26, Mar. 12, March 26, Apr. 2

[Comprehensive Literacy for All "Book Nook" featured book: "Pete the Cat's Wacky Taco Tuesday"](#)

