

Educational Opportunities

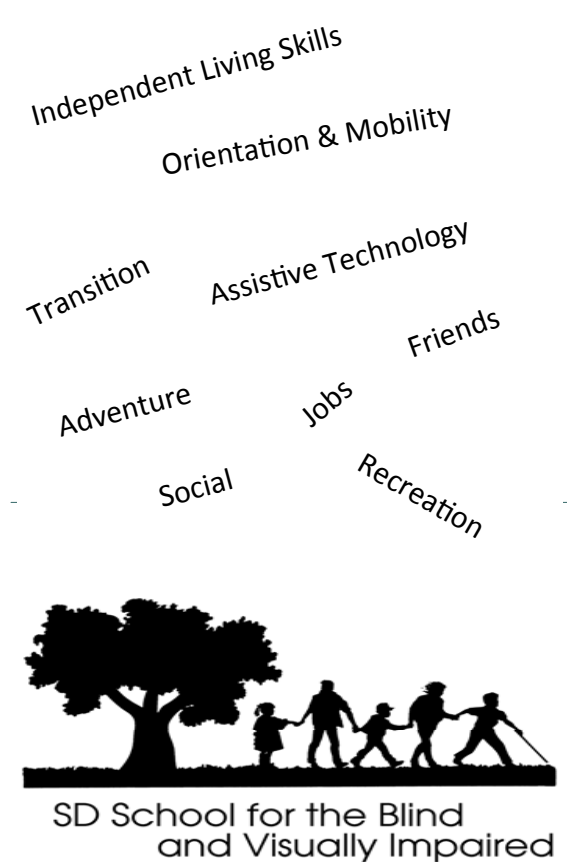
The South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired located, in Aberdeen, SD offers a variety of programs and services designed to serve the educational needs of students from birth to 21 years who are blind, visually impaired, and/or multi-handicapped.

Within the on-campus program, special emphasis is given to adapting teaching materials and methodologies to meet the needs of each student. The curriculum blends academic coursework and practical skills to enable each student to attain their maximum independence.

Instruction is also provided in:

- Orientation and Mobility
- Braille
- Assistive Technology
- Independent Living
- Career Education
- Community Based Instruction
- Recreation and Leisure
- Social Interaction
- Self-Determination
- Sensory Efficiency

Summer 2016



Return application to:

Dawn LaMee, Liaison for Services
SDSBVI
423 17th Avenue SE
Aberdeen SD 57401

Contact Dawn LaMee for more information:

605-626-2580 (school)
605-626-2607 (fax)
1-888-275-3814 (toll free):
dawn.lamee@sdsbvi.northern.edu (e-mail)
<http://sdsbvi.northern.edu> (website)

Expanded Core Curriculum Training

The curriculum of the Summer Program is designed for students who are blind or visually impaired, with emphasis being placed on training in the “**Expanded Core Curriculum**” skills areas. In addition to the traditional academic subjects, students who are blind or visually impaired need to learn specific skills to better prepare them for independence. During our Summer Program we include many of the following experiences.

- ⇒ **Assistive Technology** (electronic magnification, screen magnification, screen reading, scanning and reading, iPads, and refreshable Braille)
- ⇒ **Career Education & Transition** (career exploration, job seeking skills, job shadowing and work experiences)
- ⇒ **Compensatory Academic Skills**, including communication (skills needed to access the academic curriculum including concept development, spatial awareness, listening skills, communication mode, and modes for reading and writing (Braille, large print, tactile symbols, recorded materials)
- ⇒ **Independent Living Skills** (personal hygiene, food preparation, clothing care, shopping, accessing community services, self-advocacy, money management, time management, and organizational skills)
- ⇒ **Orientation and Mobility** (cane use, community travel, mobility aids, iPhone use, and public transportation)
- ⇒ **Recreation and Leisure Skills** (fitness, sports, games, boating, bowling, movies, board games, and swimming)
- ⇒ **Self-Determination Skills** (self-advocacy skills that will help a student develop problem-solving skills to interact effectively with others to get things done)
- ⇒ **Sensory Efficiency Skills** (learning to use all senses)
- ⇒ **Social Interaction Skills** (getting along with others)

To sign your child up for the SUMMER PROGRAM complete this form and return to:

Dawn LaMee, School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 423 17th Ave. SE, Aberdeen SD 57401-7699

Week 1: June 5 - 10 Week 2: June 13 - 17 Week 3: June 20 - 24
Week 4: July 10 - 15 Week 5: July 18 - 22 Week 6: July 25 - 29

Student's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ School District _____

To help us plan your child's program, please check specific areas of need. (mark all that apply)

- _____ Assistive Technology
- _____ Career Education
- _____ Compensatory Academic Skills
- _____ Independent Living Skills
- _____ Orientation and Mobility
- _____ Recreation and Leisure Skills
- _____ Self-Determination Skills
- _____ Sensory Efficiency Skills
- _____ Social Interaction Skills

Does your child read _____ "print" or _____ "Braille"?
(check one)

**Please return this form by
April 10, 2016**

SUMMER HAPPENINGS

Family Events

⇒ **"Wild About Learning"**

Family Weekend: June 4-5

The Outreach Vision Consultants, with financial support from the SD Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, are planning for the 5th Annual Family Weekend in Aberdeen, SD. There will be activities for the whole family, including guest speakers, hands-on experiences, and much more. Plans are to arrive the afternoon of June 4th and depart on the 5th.

⇒ **Family Swim: July 29**

As the summer is winding down we invite our families to enjoy an afternoon of swimming at the Aberdeen Aquatics Center.

If you would like more information about either family event, contact Amy Scepaniak at 605-626-2580 or toll-free 1-888-275-3814 or email: amy.scepaniak@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

Transition Week: June 26-30

The SD Rehabilitation Center for the Blind (SDRC) in Sioux Falls will be sponsoring a Transition Week. There will be a variety of activities to promote vocational learning, career exploration, and independence with fun-filled evenings. This is a great way to introduce students to the skills of blindness and career planning. Students will stay in Sioux Falls and attend classes at SDRC.

For more information or to enroll, contact your SBVI Counselor or Dawn Backer at the Rehabilitation Center at 1-800-658-5441 or 605-367-5260 or contact Steve Kelsey at the SDSBVI at 605-626-2580 or 1-888-275-3814.

On-Campus Summer Program

- ⇒ The Extended School Year Summer Program brings together blind and visually impaired students from across South Dakota for learning and fun.
- ⇒ Students who are blind or visually impaired, ages 6-21, who reside in South Dakota, may attend free of charge. Students residing outside of the state may attend the program in Aberdeen on a tuition basis.
- ⇒ Each student's summer program needs to be coordinated with his/her IEP or 504 Plan. If your child's team determines that he/she needs the "Skills of Blindness" to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), the Summer Program offered at the SDSBVI can be considered as an Extended School Year (ESY) program.
- ⇒ A student may attend one week or any combination of one to six weeks.

Information about your child is obtained from our outreach staff so please make sure they have copies of the following documents before the summer program starts.

- ⇒ **copy** of his/her IEP or 504 Plan
- ⇒ **copies** of most recent evaluations in any of the following areas: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Orientation & Mobility, Adaptive Physical Education, Speech & Language, Braille & Tactile Skills, Career Exploration, Recreation & Leisure, Activities of Daily Living, Assistive Technology, and Social Interaction Skills