

## *Services for Students Identified as Hearing or Visually Impaired*

*"The Department of Education shall annually prepare and distribute to local school boards packets of information describing the educational and other services available through the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, and the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired to students who are identified as hearing impaired or visually impaired. Local school boards shall annually post this information on the school division's website and inform the parents of those students who are identified as hearing impaired or visually impaired of its availability.*

### **Deaf – Blind**

The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia (effective July 7, 2009) defines the term as follows:

"Deaf-Blindness" means hearing and visual impairments occurring at the same time, the combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs that they cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for children with deafness or children with blindness. 34 CFR § 300.7 (c) (3); 8VAC20-81-10. Resources are available at [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/disabilities/sensory\\_disabilities/deaf\\_blind/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/sensory_disabilities/deaf_blind/index.shtml).

### **Hearing Impairment – Deafness**

The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia (effective July 7, 2009) defines the term as follows:

"Hearing Impairment" means impairment in hearing, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance but that is not included under the definition of deafness in this section. 34 CFR § 300.7 (c) (5) .

"Deafness" means a hearing impairment that is so severe that the child is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification that adversely affects the child's educational performance. 34 CFR § 300.7 (c) (3). Resources are available at [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/disabilities/sensory\\_disabilities/hearing\\_impairment/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/sensory_disabilities/hearing_impairment/index.shtml).

### **Visual Impairment – Blindness**

The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia (effective July 7, 2009) defines the term as follows:

"Visual impairment including blindness" means an impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance. The term includes both partial sight and blindness. (34 CFR §300.8(c) (13). Resources are available at: [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special\\_ed/disabilities/sensory\\_disabilities/visually\\_impaired\\_blind/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/sensory_disabilities/visually_impaired_blind/index.shtml).