

# ADMISSIONS GUIDE

West Virginia Schools  
for the Deaf and the Blind





# FOREWORD

The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind work with parents and professionals to realize dreams. Together with local school districts, we strive to match students who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, low vision, and deafblind with the best educational options to meet their individual needs.

In West Virginia, parents may choose for their child to attend the school in the local school district or to attend WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, provided the child meets all admission criteria. The WVSDB offers an immersive option of providing services to West Virginia students. We welcome the opportunity to share the many options available with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Clayton Burch', with a stylized, cursive script.

W. Clayton Burch  
Superintendent





# ABOUT

The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) is a K-12 public school, with residential facilities for grades 3-12, located in downtown Romney, West Virginia. The WVSDB is a tuition-free state public school for eligible students throughout the state of West Virginia. Attendance can be as a day student for those residing near Romney or a residential student for those who live farther away.

Educational programs at the WVSDB range from elementary to high school. Specialized services, small class sizes, and state-of-the-art technologies create a strong foundation for student achievement. Advanced technologies also ensure that parents are an integral part of their child's education through distance learning, video streaming, and videophone conferencing. Specially trained teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff provide specially designed instruction alongside opportunities to attend public school classes.

# LOCATION

Students in grades K-12 attend the Seigny building for academics and career technical education. The Subregional Office for the National Library Service is also located in Seigny. The physical education facility provides a gymnasium, fitness center and pool. Keller Hall houses the residential program and cafeteria. The E.A. Hawse Community Health Center, Child Study Center, and West Virginia Outreach Center for the Deaf and the Blind (OCDB) are located in the Brannon Building.

The OCDB/IRC building houses the Division of Rehabilitation Services, WV Birth to Three, WV Adult Education, SPOKES, EPIC, and the Instructional Resource Center (IRC). The West Virginia Outreach Center for the Deaf and the Blind and the IRC provide services to all counties in West Virginia.





1. Seigny Building
2. Brannon Building
3. WV Outreach Center for the Deaf and the Blind/  
Instructional Resource Center
4. Keller Hall
5. Physical Education
6. Blue and Gold Building
7. Maintenance Building

## Unoccupied

- |                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Seaton Hall    | G. Greenhouse               |
| B. Boiler House   | H. Freight House            |
| C. Food Storage   | J. Multi-Sensory Wing       |
| D. High Tunnel    | K. Elementary Deaf Building |
| E. Central Supply | L. Transportation Building  |
| F. Fish House     | M. Hines Hollow House       |





# WHO MAY ATTEND?

- » Student must have a primary eligibility of deaf, hard of hearing, blind, low vision, or deafblind.
- » Student must have a permanent residence in West Virginia.
- » Student must be in grades K-12 for the educational setting and 3-12 for the residential setting.
- » Students in grades 3-5 who have a basic level of independence and daily living skills may be considered for early entrance as a residential student.
- » Students displaying high management behaviors and pose a risk of harm to self or others are not appropriate for placement at the school.
- » Students demonstrating a significant cognitive disability which results in performance that is substantially below grade level achievement expectations even with the use of accommodations and modifications and current adaptive school deficits which require extensive direct instruction and practice in multiple settings are not appropriate for placement at the school.
- » Students with medically related health needs beyond the scope of the health staff are not appropriate for placement at the school.
- » Students with significant cognitive and adaptive skill deficits may also have a hearing loss, vision loss, or combined vision and hearing loss, but the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind may not be the least restrictive environment for these students.



# ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Students who are deaf or hard of hearing receive individual or group instruction from an American Sign Language (ASL) teacher. Students who are blind or low vision receive individual or group instruction from a Braille teacher. Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC) is utilized to target the unique needs of students who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/low vision, and deafblind.

A planned sequence of career readiness includes coursework, campus internships, community and campus residences that nurture independent living, community worksites, and partnerships between the Romney/Hampshire County communities and the WVSDB.



# ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular, recreational, and performing arts activities are available for students, including statewide and national academic and athletic competitions.

Athletic opportunities include volleyball, Goalball, track, basketball, and swimming. Opportunities for additional sporting activities are available in collaboration with Hampshire County Schools. Some sports are sanctioned by the Secondary Schools Athletic Commission (WVSSAC) while others are part of the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) and the Eastern Athletic Association for the Blind (EAAB). Student organizations, after-school activities and partnerships with outside groups provide students with opportunities to socialize. Students are offered opportunities to attend workshops, and attend a variety of clubs, and participate in meaningful and beneficial activities.





## **RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM**

The Residential Program serves students grades 3-12 with age-appropriate self-help and independence skills through age 21 in a residential placement. Adult supervision is provided at all times. While in our Student Life Program, students learn independent living skills such as meal planning and cooking, cleaning, basic daily hygiene, shopping, and social skills. Students are provided engaging after-school experiences, as well as additional ASL and Orientation and Mobility support.



# **ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

- » Occupational Therapy
- » Physical Therapy
- » Audiology
- » Individual & Group Counseling
- » Language & Communication Development
- » Educational Interpreting
- » WVU Low Vision Clinic
- » Adaptive Daily Living (ADL) Skills
- » Augmentative-Alternative Communication
- » Orientation & Mobility
- » Nursing Services
- » School Psychological Services
- » Behavior Certified Support Specialist
- » Free transportation for students
- » Dedicated Personal Technology Devices
- » Speech Language Therapy
- » Outreach
- » CVRP Clinic



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Phone: 304-822-4800 | Fax: 304-461-8005  
301 East Main Street, Romney, WV 26757

***<http://wvsdb2.state.k12.wv.us>***