



IESDB

Idaho Educational Services
for the Deaf and the Blind

Red Flags for Vision Impairments/Low Vision/Blindness

IESDB Education Specialists begin serving children from birth through three years and can be a participating member of an Infant-Toddler Coaching Team. IESDB does not bill or charge for services. Education Specialists can also be part of the child's transition team into preschool and continue to serve students through graduation. To qualify for services, the first requirement is a current report from an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Red flags that may signal a need for input from an Education Specialist and an appointment for a medical eye exam:

- Prematurity (by 2 months or more)
- Low birth weight (2.5 pounds or less)
- Neurological or Cortical concerns

Other alerts to a possible visual impairment*:

- Not attending to adult's face
- Eyes not working together (by 6 months) such as,
 - Trouble moving eyes in all directions
 - One or both eyes turn in or out most of time
- Eyes that jiggle quickly from side-to-side
- Pupils appear white
- Extreme sensitivity to light
- Keeping eyes closed most of time
- Bulging eyes
- Unusual redness in eye or eyelid

Please contact your regional IESDB Education Specialist for the visually impaired/blind for more information, or Paula Mason, Director of Outreach, or Jeanne-Marie Kopecky, Assistant Director, at 208-934-4457.

*Adapted from <http://www.earlyinterventionsupport.com> 8/27/12