

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

- Credentialed teachers of the Visually Impaired (VI)
- Service coordination and case management
- Intake and assessment to determine child's educational needs, and development of an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)
- Specialized instruction and parent training regarding visual impairment, as well as all 5 areas of development (Self-Regulation, Social & Emotional, Language & Literacy, Cognition, Physical & Health)
- Services provided in the natural environment of home and community
- Family Support Centers provide opportunities to interact with other parents of children with visual impairment, facilitate education, and emphasize quality of life within the family; transportation available
- Transition and Individualized Education Program (IEP) development for preschool as children turn 3 years of age
- Bilingual Support



Los Angeles Unified School District

Early Childhood Special Education

Early Start Low Incidence

Low Vision/Blind Educational Services

Los Angeles Unified School District

Early Childhood Special Education

Early Start Low Incidence Program

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Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) offers a comprehensive array of educational services to assist families with infants and toddlers (birth to 36 months of age) with the Low Incidence (LI) eligibility of Visual Impairment (VI). The early intervention team of professionals help parents, families and students experience growth and success in learning and life skills

The family, as the child's most important resource, receives support to strengthen and secure child-to-parent attachment and bonding, which optimizes learning potential and development across all domains.

Our services are part of the California Early Start Low Incidence Program and is provided at no cost to families under the provision of federal law (IDEA, Part C), in the family home, other natural environments, or daycare setting.

Intervention services also include learning activities to promote development across the following domains:

1. Self-Regulation

- Attention maintenance
- Self-Comforting
- Imitation
- Curiosity
- Self-Control of feelings & behavior

2. Social & Emotional:

- Bonding and attachment
- Trust building
- Positive peer/family/group interactions

3. Language & Literacy

- Parent/infant communication – i.e. “reading” infant/toddler cues
- Understanding of language (Receptive)
- Communication and use of language (Expressive)
- Interest in Literacy
- Pre-Braille skills

4. Cognition:

- Concept development
- Play skills
- Cause and Effect
- Math skills
- Physical & Health

5. Gross & fine motor skills

- Tactile & sensory skills
- Body & Spatial awareness
- Pre-Orientation & Mobility
- Safety
- Personal Care Routines: hygiene, feeding, dressing



LAUSD's Early Start Low Incidence early intervention program is committed to a team approach of professionals working together with a child's family in order to provide optimal support. Additional services may include:

- Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Consultation
- Occupational (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT) Consultations
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Teacher Consultation
- Certified Infant Massage Trainers
- Braille Instruction
- Psychiatric Social Workers
- Registered Nurses
- Special Education Assistants
- Transition Service Facilitator (TSF) supporting transition to preschool

Types of visual impairments may include, but are not limited to:

- Cortical Visual Impairment / Neurological Visual Impairment
- Optic Nerve Hypoplasia
- Retinopathy Of Prematurity
- Optic Nerve Atrophy
- Glaucoma
- Cataracts
- Retinoblastoma
- Microphthalmia
- Coloboma
- Albinism
- Nystagmus
- Syndromes which include Visual Impairment
- Disabilities in addition to Vision Loss

