

TO: Executive Directors and CEOs of Contracted Service Providers with Early Intervention and Case Management, OIDD Regional Centers and Community ICF/IIDs

FROM: Constance Holloway, Esq. *CDH*
Office Director

RE: 2026 Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students

DATE: January 5, 2026

The purpose of the Federal Quota is to provide adapted educational material to eligible students who meet the definition of blindness. This annual registration determines a per capita amount of money designated for the purchase of the material produced by American Printing House for the Blind. All providers need to provide a count by February 13, 2026. A report based on your 2025 census count and a blank copy of the new 2026 registration forms are enclosed.

If you find that one or more of your people are not listed on the preliminary report that you recall including for the 2025 census, they may have not met the definition of blindness, or it may be a school age child who was claimed by the public school system or the SC School for the Deaf and Blind (SCSDB). In these cases, their names would have been removed from last year's report. It is important for you to include any person you serve who meets the criteria, regardless of whether they are served by the school system or SCSDB. We will work closely with other organizations to determine where the student will be claimed.

Additional names should also be reported on the blank form attached. Every section of the form, except for the Student ID number, must be completed.

Please note the following eligibility information as you complete the census.

1. The person:
 - a. Must meet the Definition of Blindness (MDB) which is a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses or a peripheral field so contracted that the widest diameter of such field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees. OR
 - b. Must function at the Definition of Blindness (FDB) which is visual performance reduced by brain injury or dysfunction when visual function meets the definition of blindness as determined by an eye care specialist or neurologist. OR
 - c. Qualifies under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) definition of blindness: an impairment in vision, that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance (34 CFR §300.8(c)(13))

2. There is no age limit for eligibility.
3. Be enrolled in a formal, organized educational program of less than college level.
 - a. Include children who receive Early Intervention or preschool programs.
 - b. Include school-age children who are served by public schools, private schools or through SCSSDB.
 - c. Include adults who have a written plan such as those who attend an OIDD day programs or receive services from Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Federal Quota Census from 2025 as well as any new people should be submitted to Julianne Ingalls via email or SCOMM no later than February 13th, 2026. To avoid delays, please ensure the following:

- All sections of the registration form are completed. See attached Reporting Codes to use.
- Provide the name and contact number for the person completing the census in case there are questions.
- If you have a zero count for the census, please write “zero count” at the top and return.
- If there are no changes to last year’s report, write “no change” at the top and return.
- If an individual listed on the 2025 report has moved out of state, please note this on the report to ensure they are deleted from the report.

Do not miss out on this opportunity to provide accessible educational materials to children and adults who qualify. If you have any questions, please contact Julianne Ingalls at Julianne.ingalls@ddsn.sc.gov or Janis Moore at Janis.moore@ddsn.sc.gov.

**Blank Preliminary Student Registration Form
Federal Quota Census
January 5, 2026**

Upper & lower case, no punctuality except for a hyphenated last name.					IP, PS, KG, 01-11, 12+, AD	00/00/0000	EN, SP, or OT	MDB or FDB, or IDEA if under age 22	A, B, PRE, S, or V	A, B, V, or NA	A, B, V, or NA	Yes, No, or Leave Empty				
firstname	lastname	middlename	suffix	nickname	district-must match those in SRS	gradelevel	dateofbirth	language	functionality	PRM	SRM	ORM	parentpermission	noteone	notetwo	notethree