

OUR MISSION

The Maryland School for the Blind, through its on-campus and outreach services, ensures that students who are blind or visually impaired including those with multiple disabilities reach their fullest potential by preparing them with the abilities to be successful, independent and well-rounded contributing members of their communities.

Please call 410-319-5722 for more information, to schedule a campus tour, or for additional copies of this brochure in print, braille, or large print.



The Maryland School for the Blind

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www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org

exceeding everyone's highest expectations

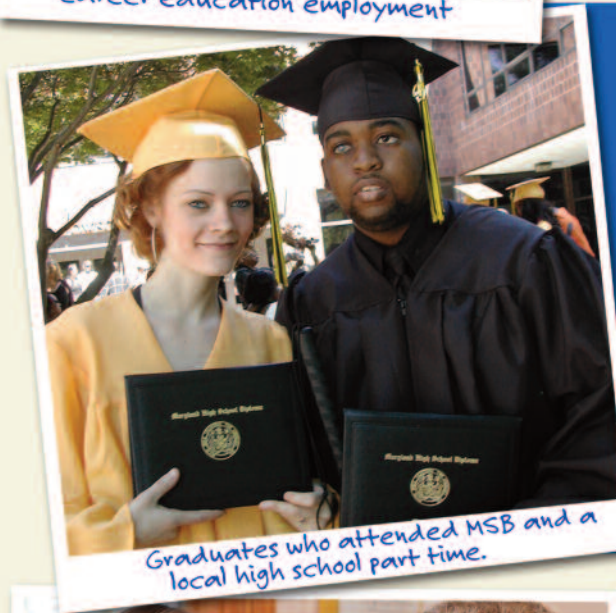


The Maryland School for the Blind

SINCE 1853



Career education employment



Graduates who attended MSB and a local high school part time.



Kate, who is deafblind, with her parents.

"Kelly is a prime example of how the program benefits MSB students. She has learned to be social, learned job skills, and learned how to take responsibility. She knows how to plan for days off and remind us that she needs her break. I make sure that our employees are sensitive to the feelings, need for accommodation, and occasional need of reassurance for our co-workers with disabilities."

— Beth White,
Manager of Friendly's Restaurant

MSB Guiding Principles

- Student safety
- Child and family-centered services
- Quality innovations; best practices
- High achievement and independence
- Community integration
- Low student to staff ratio

"Kate's part of the world now and becoming more so every day. Her ability to understand and interact with the world is so much better. As a family we can do things with confidence that we couldn't before—go bowling, out to dinner, to the movies and even camping!"

—Kate's Mom, MSB parent



The Maryland School for the Blind is a private, statewide resource center providing best practice outreach, school and residential programs ensuring that each student's fullest potential is reached and parent and local school system expectations are exceeded.

MSB Services

Are designed to meet the individual needs of students who have low vision or are blind and may have additional disabilities.

On Campus Programs

Provided to:
Preschool age students

- The program also enrolls students without disabilities to promote integration.

School age students

- Who will receive a Maryland diploma or certificate.
- Who have severe and profound disabilities.
- Who are deafblind.
- Who have communication disorders including those on the autism spectrum.

The Maryland School for the Blind serves 73% of the 1,800 students identified in Maryland who are blind or visually impaired. MSB serves 7% of these students on campus and 66% through outreach and the Instructional Resource Center.

Outreach Community Services

Provided to students enrolled in their local public or private schools.

- **Functional low vision** evaluations are provided through MSB's on-campus monthly low vision clinics or in local school or home settings.
- **Diagnostic evaluations** determine a student's present level of performance essential in designing and implementing individual education programs.
- **Parent and professional staff training** is related to blindness, low vision and a variety of other topics.
- **Consultations** with local school staff promote student achievement, integration and success.
- **Instructional Resource Center (IRC)** provides braille and adapted instructional materials.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS about The Maryland School for the Blind

Q: Who does MSB serve?

A: MSB serves a very diverse group of students. They range in age from birth through 21 and are either blind or have low vision. In addition to their visual impairment, many students have multiple disabilities. Some students are academically focused on obtaining a diploma while others are in programs which emphasize functional independence.

Q: Are parents charged tuition?

A: No, parents do not pay tuition for their child at MSB. The state, local school systems and MSB provide funding for the students to attend MSB.

Q: Does MSB teach academics and can a student earn a high school diploma?

A: Yes, students are given intensive instruction and support to meet the Maryland graduation requirements.

Q: What curriculum does MSB follow?

A: MSB follows the Maryland State Curriculum. In addition, it implements the Expanded Core Curriculum which is designed specifically for students who are blind and visually impaired. Examples of areas addressed include braille, orientation and mobility, self care, career training, recreation and leisure and social skills.

Q: Is the school open all year?

A: MSB follows a typical school year calendar and also provides specialized summer programming.

Q: Once enrolled do students remain at MSB until he or she graduates or turns 21?

A: Many students return to their local district after receiving instruction at MSB for a year while others may stay at MSB for their entire school career. The average length of time at MSB is less than five years. Placements are reviewed annually through the IEP process.

Q: Do students need to live at the school in the residential program?

A: About half of MSB students go home daily and half are overnight residential students due to distance. Residential services can be full time, part time and on an extended day basis, five nights a week. Residential status is determined by the individual needs of each student.

We want the best possible future for our students. We work hard every day to assure that everyone's expectations are exceeded.

