

**MSB Reaching Out Newsletter**

**May/June 2018**



Hello,

Are you aware of Low Intensity Support Services, *LISS* *Funds* and how to acquire them for your child?

The following was taken directly from the Developmental Disabilities Administration’s (DDA) LISS page, <https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx>. Visit this page for more details and to apply;

Main\_Content

The Low Intensity Support Services program (LISS) is low level funding designed to improve an individual or family’s quality of life, increase or maintain independence, and participate in their communities. The LISS program uses an automated system called the Random Selection Process to select individuals who may be eligible for funding, granting up to $2000 for services and items to address their needs.

The use of a Random Selection Process promotes equality and access for everyone. The process includes an application, selection, eligibility determination, and the procurement of eligible items and services. The system is indiscriminate; it does not consider the identity or any other personal aspect of the applicants. The DDA distributes LISS funding twice during the fiscal year with applications accepted during Round 1 and Round 2.

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**FY 18 Update**

FY 18 Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) applications for **Round – 1** will be accepted beginning **May 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2018**. Applications for **Round - 2** will be accepted from **July 1, 2018** **thru October 30, 2018**. For more information refer to LISS Applicant and Family Reference Guide for FY2018.

**Popular Links**

* [FY 18 LISS Announcement](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Documents/4-25-17%20corrected%20corrected%20LISS%20memo%20changes%20to%20dates.pdf)
* [LISS Applicant and Family Reference Guide for FY2018](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Documents/LISS%20Applicant%20and%20Family%20Reference%20Guide%20for%20FY2018%20(rev%202017-11-08).pdf)
* [LISS FAQ FY 18](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Documents/LISS%20FAQ%20FY%2018.doc)
* [FY 17 LISS REG Change Letter](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Documents/FY%2017%20_LISS_Reg_Change_Letter.pdf)
* [LISS Agencies](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Developments/2015/CURRENT%20LISS%20AGENCIES.pdf)
* [LISS Random Selection Application](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Documents/2016/FY16%20LISS%20Random%20Selection%20Application.pdf)

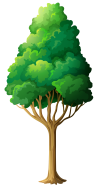
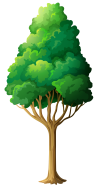
Note the Random Selection Application due dates for Round – 1 and Round – 2. If you do not receive notice that your child has been selected for Round – 1, resend application for Round – 2 after July 1st.

Since this process of selection is random, there is no guarantee your child will be selected. There is, however a greater chance the second time around since each applicant can only receive one round of funds per year.

I wish you the best of luck in your LISS application.

Until next time,

**Renee**

 ***Upcoming Events***

* **Informational Parent Webinar;**
* **Tuesday, May 22nd – 11:30 -12:30pm**

***“What Parents Need to Know When Navigating Through Laws for Their Visually Impaired or Blind Child”***

Presenter; **Leslie Margolis,** Managing Attorney, **Disability Rights, Maryland**

**Registration URL:** <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/2263be263b45436d7510d14dfea9e911>

* **3rd Annual PACA GARDEN QUEST For students who are blind or visually impaired**



Please join us for Garden Quest 2018 at the **William Paca House and Garden** in historic Annapolis! Come meet other students with visual impairments from around the state and join in the fun. This event is organized by Historic Annapolis, Anne Arundel and Prince Georges County schools, and the Maryland School for the Blind Outreach Program.

**DATE:** Sunday, June 10, 2018

**TIME:** 1:00-3:00 p.m. with an optional BYO picnic at noon

**COST:** Free!

**PLACE:** William Paca House & Garden

186 Prince George Street, Annapolis, MD

\*Suggested Parking: State garage on Bladen St.(free on weekend)

Information on the William Paca House & Garden website.

**PROGRAM**:

Garden Quest is a sensory tour of the historic colonial garden at the William Paca House in Annapolis. First, students and their families can check out our display of flowers, herbs, and spices. Next we’ll have a brief orientation, and a garden-themed dance for exercise and fun. Then you can tour the garden using a special tactile map, or go inside the Paca House for a 30 minute guided tour - also using a tactile map. We’ll finish with ice cream \* generously donated by a local ice cream shop.

**RSVP by May 30** for the garden program and/or the optional house tour

to sgkratz@gmail.com (Also use this address for any questions about the event.)

\* *The optional house tour can accommodate at most 10 guests (counting children and parents).*

*If you’re interested, get your name on the list before it fills up!* **But for the garden program, the more the merrier!**



* **The Maryland School for the Blind Summer Programs:**
* **M.I.S.L.E. Summer Institute**

*(Mastering Independence Skills Through Living Experiences)*

**July 9th—August 3rd, 2018**

Research shows that post-secondary success for students with visual impairment can be significantly impacted by lack of training and experience in several areas, including organization, work experience, social skills and mobility. A work based, residential *(Monday-Friday)* program for students with visual impairments ages 14-21 years of age, M.I.S.L.E. is designed specifically to provide intensive instruction in all of these skills and more. Taught by highly qualified teachers and staff trained in the field of blindness.

**Participants will:**

* Work in community based jobs while earning pay.
* Gain more knowledge about employment expectations by visiting various work sites and participating in mock interviews.
* Learn daily living skills necessary for independence.
* Work on social/emotional skills necessary for college, work and lasting connections with peers.
* Engage in activities to build self-advocacy skills.

For Additional Information contact:

**Dareen Barrios 410-444-5000 ext. 1203 or dareenb@mdschblind.org**

Participants must be **Pre-ETS** approved through **DORS.**

(http://dors.maryland.gov/crps/Pages/Pre-ETS.aspx)

Registration and all Health Forms must be returned **May 25, 2018.**

* **TECCH For Success:**

A one week camp for visually impaired students to gain understanding about the importance of the Expanded Core Curriculum in their education and life while learning essential technology skills..

**Elementary Week: July 9 – 13, 2018**

**Middle/High Week: July 23 – 27, 2018**

* **Camp Abilities at MSB:**

A one week overnight sports education camp for youth ages 9 – 17 who are blind and visually impaired on **The Maryland School for the Blind**’s campus.

Cost: $150/ \*Scholarships may be available\*

**Swimming, Goalball, Beep Baseball, Soccer, Judo, Track and Field, Fitness Activities, and Camp Fires**

**July 16 – 20, 2018**

To register go to: www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/current-events/outreach-events/ and click 2018 Registration Form .

* **Camp Abilities at Lion’s Camp Merrick:**

A one week overnight outdoor education camp for youth ages 9 – 17 who are blind and visually impaired on the beautiful **Potomac River in Nanjemoy, Maryland.**

Cost: $550 / \*Scholarships are available\*

**Swimming, Canoeing, Archery, Fishing, Rock Climbing, Crafts, Hikes, and Camp Fires**

**July 29 – August 2, 2018**

To register go to: www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/current-events/outreach-events/ and click 2018 Registration Form.

\*Email if you have any questions at: [matthewm@mdschblind.org](mailto:matthewm@mdschblind.org)

* **North American Blind Football Development Camp**

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**June 25-29, 2018**

**Baltimore, Maryland, USA**

The goal of this camp is to identify players and coaches interested in competing in blind football (American Soccer).

**When: June 25-29, 2018**

**Where:** **Maryland School for the Blind, Baltimore, Maryland, USA**

**Who:** Coaches and athletes involved in the blind sports community. Coaches and athletes will be recruited from state schools for the blind, and regional and national sports clubs from the US and Canada. Athletes with B1, B2 and B3 classifications will be welcomed.

**How:** The camp will be split into two sections: a coaching clinic (aka “Train The Trainer”) and an athlete development camp. An experienced International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) blind football official will direct the camp, empowering the coaches in attendance to get hands-on experience with athletes on the field of play. The goal of the camp is to provide coaches with the necessary tools and knowledge to create blind football programs in their local communities, and for athletes to hone their fundamental skills for the game. The camp will also serve as an identification event for future national team selections.

**Why:** Development of the sport of blind football has been limited in North America since it’s introduction at the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games. Interest in developing the sport in North America is active, however, North American countries are lacking the knowledge and expertise to provide it’s constituents with the infrastructure needed to successfully develop and grow the game from a grassroots, national and international level. The inclusion of an IBSA blind football official will ensure that North American coaches and athletes will have the tools to grow the sport exponentially across the region.

**Contact: Kevin Brousard**, US Association of Blind Athletes Membership Manager

[kbrousard@usaba.org](mailto:kbrousard@usaba.org) / **+1 719 866 3019**

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07efbe52b4437c8e7b&oseq=&c=&ch>

\*\****All summer registration, medical information, and payments are due May 31st.***

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

If you have registered for a summer program you must have ALL paperwork and payments in by May 31st.

*No applications will be accepted past this date.*

MSB works hard to ensure that all students are safe and we have all required documentation to do so.  In addition we must know how many students we have so we can appropriately staff our programs to ensure your child gets the most out of it.  Thank you for your understanding and diligence in ensuring we receive all required paperwork for this summer.

**\*\*Summer Programs and Required Paperwork:\*\***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Paperwork Required by MAY 31st** | | |  |
| **MSB Residential Students** | **MSB Day Students** | **Non-MSB Students** |  |
| Up-to-Date Physical\* (within 1 year)  [Physical Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2017-2018-Part-II-Health-Assessment-Fillable.docx) | Up-to-Date Physical\* (within 1 year)  [Physical Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2017-2018-Part-II-Health-Assessment-Fillable.docx) | Physical\* [Physical Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2017-2018-Part-II-Health-Assessment-Fillable.docx)  (Or copy of a physical within 1 year) *(\*Camp Abilities and Camp Merrick Only)* |  |
| If your child takes medication  the medication authorization  form\* is required. (link)  [Med. Authorization Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2017-2018-Maryland-State-Medication-Authorization-Fillable.docx) |  |
| Vaccinations\* |  |
| 911/Insurance [911/Insurance Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2017-2018-Emergency-911-Transportation-Consent-Fillable.doc) |  |
| OTC Medications  [OTC Med. Form](https://www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2017-2018-Over-the-Counter-Meds-Permission.doc) |  |
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\*Form must be completed by child’s primary care doctor.

***If you have any questions about any of our programs or are in need of resources for your child or would like to be removed from our emailing list, please contact:***

***Renee Kirby***

***Parent Coordinator / The Maryland School for the Blind***

***3501 Taylor Avenue / Baltimore, MD 21236***

[***reneek@mdschblind.org***](mailto:reneek@mdschblind.org) ***or 410-444-5000 ext. 1489***