



Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Jill K. Underly, PhD, State Superintendent



What Support Can WCBVI Outreach Offer to Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) [115.525](#)

To support Wisconsin vision professionals and community partners, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (WCBVI) Outreach provides Braille Refresher Courses.

To support new vision professionals in Wisconsin, WCBVI Outreach offers its successful Mentoring Program. The Program contracts with experienced/veteran vision professionals throughout Wisconsin, who then pairs with novice Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired (TVIs) and Orientation and Mobility (O&M) specialists. The Mentoring Program enables the new vision professional to collaborate with an experienced mentor through the first year of employment and for one full school year beyond the completion of their training and certification requirements.

To support Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) across Wisconsin, IHEs in our adjacent states, and National Conferences and Conventions, WCBVI Outreach staff provides guest lecturers and tailors presentations on topics pertinent to the roles of Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired (TVIs) and Orientation and Mobility (O&M) specialists. [115.525\(3\)\(b\)](#)

To assist new vision professionals in Wisconsin to navigate the formal processes used by Wisconsin K-12 school districts to obtain student textbooks in alternate formats, equipment, and classroom consumable materials, WCBVI Outreach offers presentations and guidance through its Educational Services Center.

WCBVI Outreach offers virtual and in-person tours of the WCBVI Outreach program and facility to IHEs and to new Wisconsin vision professionals. WCBVI Outreach can arrange to provide in-depth tours to facilitate better understanding of the WCBVI Outreach EmployAbility summer work Transition Program.

WCBVI Outreach offers presentations and support to IHEs and to Wisconsin vision professionals regarding the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) Federal Quota Fund registration process. This includes overall eligibility requirements as well as the Federal FERPA requirements. Federal Quota Funds supplement school district funding for qualifying blind/visually impaired infants and students. This session could be taught by Wisconsin's Ex Officio Trustee (EOT) for APH.

WCBVI Outreach shares IHE contact information regarding specialist-training programs for both in-state and adjacent-state TVIs and O&M specialists.

<https://www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/resources/become-tvi-om/>

To assist community partners inquiring about financial support, WCBVI Outreach shares contact information regarding Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB) funding.

<https://www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/resources/become-tvi-om/>
