



Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Outreach Programs | Texas Deafblind Project

www.tsbvi.edu | 512-454-8631 | 1100 W. 45th St. | Austin, TX 78756

What is CVI?

You've noticed something different about your child's vision

If you've noticed something different about how your child uses their vision, trust your observations. Family members are often the first to sense these differences, and your insights are crucial. Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) is the leading cause of low vision and blindness in children. It is often missed because it's based in the brain, and the eyes may look fine. Children who are diagnosed with a neurological or genetic condition are at a higher risk of having CVI.

Resources to learn more about CVI

Family Tip: You are your child's first and best advocate. Trust your instincts and observations about your child's vision – they are valuable clues.

- [CVI: Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment](#)
- [When to suspect CVI](#)
- [What other conditions are associated with CVI?](#)

Go to an eye professional

Family Tip: When talking with medical professionals, don't hesitate to ask questions, share your observations about your child's everyday vision, and express your concerns. You are a key part of their care team.

- [Find a Doctor](#)
- [How Doctors Diagnose CVI](#)
- [What Can the Doctor Do After Diagnosing CVI?](#)
- [Communicating With Families](#)
- [Resources on CVI: Medical organizations and professional development](#)

Visit your local school or Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) office

Family Tip: Your insights are vital! Partnering with your school or early intervention team will help create an individualized plan that perfectly fits what your child needs to thrive. (Important to note for families in Texas: infants and toddlers under the age of three with CVI may be eligible for early intervention services.)

- [Early Childhood Intervention \(ECI\)](#)
 - [Find your local ECI](#)
- Terms and Definitions in Special Education
 - [Special Education Acronym Quick Reference Guide](#)
 - [Special Education in Texas A-Z Index](#)
- [Guidelines and Standards for Educating Students with Visual Impairments in Texas](#)
- [CVI and the IFSP/IEP](#)

You have a Diagnosis

Family Tips: Receiving a diagnosis can bring many emotions. It's okay to feel overwhelmed. Connect with other families or support groups – you are not alone on this journey. Your home is your child's first classroom. Small adaptations can make a big difference, and you know your child's unique responses best. Celebrate every step of progress!

- [Newly Diagnosed](#)
- [6 steps to take after a CVI diagnosis](#)
- [CVI Now Early Intervention Series](#)
- [The Impact of CVI on Families](#)
- [At Home: Everyday CVI Adaptations and Approaches](#)
- [CVI and Autism](#)
- [CVI and Down Syndrome](#)

Where to find more resources in Texas:

Family Tips: Don't feel pressured to know everything at once. Connecting with organizations like TSBVI and the Texas Deafblind Project can provide ongoing support, resources, and connections as your child grows.

- Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI)
 - [Visually Impaired Outreach Program](#)
 - [Texas Deafblind Project](#) (txdeafblindproject@tsbvi.edu)