

Virginia Law provides that persons from 2 through 21 years of age are eligible for special education services, including religious schooled students, home instructed or home tutored students and students attending private schools, when those persons are identified as:

PRESCHOOL HANDICAPPED:

The Preschool Handicapped/Developmentally Delayed Program serves children from two through five years of age. Children who qualify for this program, demonstrate significant delays in one or more areas of development; cognitive ability, motor skills, communication skills, social skills and perceptual skills.

INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED:

Significantly sub average general intellectual functioning, existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior and manifested during the developmental period that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE:

Students who have emotional problems which affect their academic progress.

SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABLED:

A disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in the imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, and spell or to do mathematical calculations.

SPEECH OR LANGUAGE IMPAIRED:

A communication disorder, such as stuttering, impaired articulation, expressive or receptive language impairment, or voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

MULTIPLE DISABILITIES:

Students who have a combination of impairments which causes severe educational needs that cannot be accommodated in special education programs solely for one of the impairments.

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT:

An impairment in vision that, even with correction, adversely affects a child's educational performance.

DEAFNESS:

Students with a hearing impairment so severe that he/she is impaired in processing linguistic information through hearing, with or without amplification, which adversely affects educational performance.

ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT:

Students with severe orthopedic impairments which adversely affect a child's educational performance.

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY:

Students who have acquired an injury to the brain caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects educational performance.

AUTISM:

A developmental disability significantly affecting verbal and nonverbal communication and social interaction, generally evident before age three that adversely affects a child's educational performance.

OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENT:

Students who have limited strength, vitality or alertness due to chronic or acute health problems such as: heart condition, arthritis, asthma, hemophilia, epilepsy, diabetes, etc., which adversely affects educational performance.

DEAF-BLINDNESS:

(Simultaneous hearing and visual impairments) The combination of which causes such severe communication and other developmental and educational needs.

DEVELOPMENTALLY DELAYED:

A disability affecting a child ages two by September 30 through six, inclusive. Who is experiencing developmental delays, as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in one or more of the following areas: physical, cognitive, communication, social or emotional, or adaptive development.

HEARING IMPAIRMENT:

An impairment in hearing in one or both ears, with or without amplification, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects a child's educational performance, but that is not included under the definition of deafness. Numerous programs are

available to meet individual and varied needs of exceptional children in Bland County.

Preschool children, birth to school age, are served in the home, in the Head Start Program, and at the Preschool Center by teachers who are trained to teach children with special needs. Although most disabilities are served within the school system, some students may be served by individual programs which may involve regional projects, state facilities, private schools or other arrangements to meet their needs.

**ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Whenever a child is having a school related problem and prior to any individual testing, the parent is notified and written permission is obtained. A number of assessment procedures are used to determine if a child is eligible for special education. These procedures include, but are not limited to:

- * a parent interview and completion of a behavior checklist to help school personnel understand a child's behavior and home environment.
- * a written report from a physician to assess a child's physical well-being and any health problem(s) which may interfere with his or her learning.
- * a nondiscriminatory psychological evaluation which may include a measurement of current functioning of intelligence, aptitude, achievement, adjustment, motivation, personality, or any other psychological attributes that directly relate to learning, vocational orientation or behavioral problems at school.

REFERRALS:

Children with suspected delays or disabilities may be referred by teachers, parents or concerned citizens. Referrals should be made to the child's teacher, school principal or Courtney Sutphin, Supervisor of Special Services, Bland County Schools, 361 Bears Trail, Bastian, VA 24314 (Phone 276- 688-3361). For infants, toddlers (birth through 2 years of age) and their families who need support, please contact: Adele Rohner, Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia, 770 Ridge Road, Wytheville, VA 24382 (Phone 276- 239-0019)

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

Birth to One Year

- Pulls self to standing position and walks with support
- Picks up and throws objects
- Follows simple directions with gestures
- Shows affection

One to Two Years

- Walks and runs independently
- Turns pages of a book
- Follows requests
- Imitates housework
- Uses 2 or 3 word phrases

Two to Three Years

- Walks up stairs
- Feeds self
- Names pictures in books
- Verbalizes toilet needs
- Dresses and undresses
- Plays with other children
- Understands conversation and expresses needs and wants

Three to Four Years

- Hops, throws and catches
- Repeats rhyme or song
- Recognizes basic colors
- Knows own name, age and gender
- Shares and takes turns in group
- Speech is understandable to everyone

Four to Five Years

- Jumps over low objects
- Uses knife for cutting food
- Prints first name
- Competes with others in game
- Uses same sentence structure as family
- Asks questions

BLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent (276) 688-3361
Special Education Department (276) 688-3361

SCHOOLS

Bland County Elementary School (276) 688-3621
Bland County High School (276) 928-1100

**IF YOU NEED THIS INFORMATION IN
ANY LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
ENGLISH, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Courtney K. Sutphin
**SUPERVISOR OF SPECIAL
SERVICES**
BLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
361 BEARS TRAIL
BASTIAN, VA 24314
(276) 688-3361
sutphinc@bland.k12.va.us



*Project **CHILDFIND** is
Bland County Public Schools'
search for children with special needs.
Our search effort is to locate students,
ages birth through 21, with
delays or disabilities.*

**BLAND COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

CHILDFIND