

## *Family Supports*

### Parent Information Center

The Mission of the Parent Information Center is to guide and encourage families in supporting the unique learning potential of their children, including children with disabilities. (800) 947-7005 [www.picnh.org](http://www.picnh.org)

### NH Department of Education

The NHDOE is committed to helping students, parents, and educators (including teachers, principals, superintendents, and school communities) meet the educational needs of each student. This site provides a wealth of data and information about the NHDOE's programs, services, and initiatives at the fingertips of every citizen. (603) 271-3494 [www.education.nh.gov](http://www.education.nh.gov)

### Vocational Rehabilitation

Services for Blind and Visually Impaired provides those services necessary to help people with visual loss to enter, re-enter, or maintain employment. (603) 271-3537 [www.education.nh.gov/career/vocational](http://www.education.nh.gov/career/vocational)

### Multi-sensory Intervention through Consultation and Education (MICE)

MICE provides educational and developmental services to sensory impaired infants, ages birth to three years. Blindness and deafness do not occur as frequently as other disabilities. MICE services are designed to assist families and community agency personnel in learning how to care for and work with the unique abilities and needs of each child with vision and hearing loss. (603) 228-1028 [www.miceprogram.org](http://www.miceprogram.org)

## NH Braille Law

### CHAPTER 186-C SPECIAL EDUCATION

#### Section 186-C:7-b

**186-C:7-b Braille Instruction for Functionally Blind Pupils.** – In developing the individualized education program for a functionally blind pupil, there shall be:

I. A presumption that proficiency in Braille reading and writing is essential for the pupil's satisfactory educational progress. Every functionally blind pupil shall be entitled to Braille reading and writing instruction unless all members of the pupil's special education team concur that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the pupil.

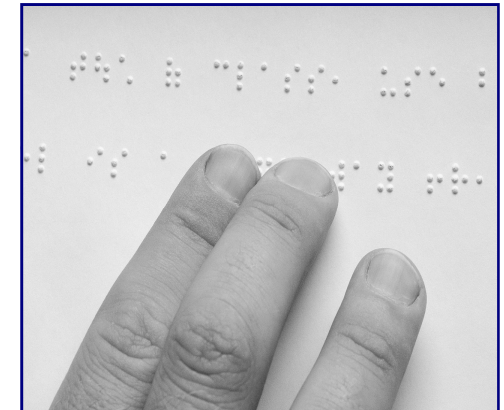
II. Instruction in Braille shall be provided by a teacher certified by the state department of education to teach pupils with visual impairment.

III. An initial learning media assessment by a teacher certified in the education of pupils with visual impairment shall be conducted. This assessment shall be conducted every 3 years and reviewed annually.

**Source.** 1997, 114:2, eff. July 1, 1997.



**Supports,  
connections and  
literacy resources  
for parents and  
schools serving  
children who are  
blind and visually  
impaired.**



A collaborative effort of NH Department of Education and the Parent Information Center

# Literacy Resources

## Parent to Parent Resources

### NH Parents of Blind Children (NHPOBC)

Provides vital support, encouragement, and information to families of blind and visually impaired children. Connect with other families, and many resources and great programs. NHPOBC is part of the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children & National Federation of the Blind. Contact Penny Duffy for more information at (603) 892-6355, or [www.nhpobc.org](http://www.nhpobc.org).



### National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NHPVI)

Run by parents for parents of children with visual impairments. Provides assistance with parent to parent connections, resources and family recreational opportunities at little to no cost. In the past NHPVI has had monthly meetings. Contact Maribeth Geraghty for more information (603) 273-5838 or email [MBG111@netzero.com](mailto:MBG111@netzero.com) or [www.spedex.com](http://www.spedex.com)

### New Hampshire State Library Talking Book Services

The Talking Books Program meets the reading needs and interests of NH residents who are physically unable to see, handle or process printed material comfortably. Braille books available to borrow via the Perkins Braille and Talking Book Library 800-491-4200 [www.nh.gov/nhsl/talking\\_books/](http://www.nh.gov/nhsl/talking_books/)



**NH Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Children Literature Room** has a selection of large print and braille books available for parents and teachers to borrow. NH Department of Education 271-0818 [www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special\\_ed/nhaim.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/nhaim.htm)

**NH Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM)** provides free accessible instructional textbooks and materials in audio, digital, large print, and Braille for education and home use. Also provides access to assistive technology such as magnification software and devices and refreshing Braille displays. Training is provided to educators and families. [www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special\\_ed/nhaim.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/nhaim.htm)

**ReadBooks Program** Braille book bags available to blind and visually impaired children age birth to age 7. To sign up fill out online form at National Braille Press's website. Call 800-548-7323 ext. 520. [www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/programs/readbooks/readbook](http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/programs/readbooks/readbook)



**NFB Braille Reading Pals** A Braille literacy program for young children age infant to age seven. Email [BrailleReadingPals@nfb.org](mailto:BrailleReadingPals@nfb.org) for more information. [www.nfb.org/braille-reading-pals-early-literacy-program](http://www.nfb.org/braille-reading-pals-early-literacy-program)

### Seedlings Book Angel Program

Visually impaired children can register yearly to get two free braille books from Seedlings. Call 800-777-8552 [www.seedlings.org](http://www.seedlings.org)

### American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults

Provides a free Braille book each month for blind children. Participants may choose to



American Action Fund  
for Blind Children and Adults

receive all or any combination of these titles, as they like. The books are free and theirs to keep. [www.actionfund.org/free-braille-books](http://www.actionfund.org/free-braille-books)

### Braille Institute Braille Special Collection Program

Designed to increase Braille literacy by providing blind and visually impaired children with free Braille books and storybook kits throughout the year, free of charge. For more information and to sign up Call 1-800-BRAILLE [www.brailleinstitute.org/Services/Braille\\_Publishing/Braille\\_Books\\_for\\_Children.aspx](http://www.brailleinstitute.org/Services/Braille_Publishing/Braille_Books_for_Children.aspx)

