

# OREGON

## Blind/Visual Impairment Resources



## Oregon Blind/Visual Impairment Resources

### Access Technologies Inc.

3070 Lancaster Dr. NE

Salem, OR 97305

**Phone:** 1-(800) 677-7512 (503) 361-1201 (V/TTY)

**Fax:** (503) 370-4530

**E-mail:** [info@accesstechnologiesinc.org](mailto:info@accesstechnologiesinc.org)

**Website:** <http://www.accesstechnologiesinc.org/>

**Contact Name:** Laurie Brooks, President

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

Access Technologies Inc. (ATI) will help you choose appropriate assistive technology, the software and hardware you need, and help you set up your equipment, modify your work site, home or other setting. They provide both "low-tech" and "high-tech" solutions. ATI provides ongoing support for people with disabilities, families, employers, educators and other professionals. ATI services provide: Ergonomic Risk Assessments, Trainings and Workshops, Used Equipment Marketplaces, an Equipment Library, and an Email service for technology questions.

### National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness (DCDB)

345 North Monmouth Ave.

Monmouth, OR 97361

**Phone:** (800) 438-9376 TTY (800) 854-7013

**Fax:** (503) 838-8150

**E-mail:** [info@nationaldb.org](mailto:info@nationaldb.org)

**Website:** <http://nationaldb.org/>

**Contact Name:** Gail Leslie

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, Disability/Disorder Specific, Information Centers, National Organizations and Associations, Parent/Family Support

**Disabilities Served:** Deaf / Blind, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Visual Impairment / Blind

The National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB) is a national technical assistance and dissemination center for children and youth who are deaf-blind. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), NCDB focuses on two major purposes: The first is to promote academic achievement and results for children and youth (from birth to age 26) who are deaf-blind, through technical assistance, model demonstration, and information dissemination activities that are supported by evidence-based practices. Activities are directed toward families, service providers, state deaf-blind projects, state and local education agencies, and other organizations responsible for providing early intervention, education, and transition services. The second purpose is to assist in addressing state-identified needs for highly qualified personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge to serve children and youth who are deaf-blind.

## **National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB)**

Teaching Research Institute; Western Oregon University; 345 North Monmouth Avenue  
Monmouth, OR 97361

**Phone:** (800) 438-9376

**Fax:** (503) 838-8150

**E-mail:** [info@nationaldb.org](mailto:info@nationaldb.org)

**Website:** <http://www.nationaldb.org/>

**Organization Type:** Disability/Disorder Specific, Information Centers, National Organizations and Associations

**Disabilities Served:** Deaf / Blind

The National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB) is a national technical assistance and dissemination center for children and youth who are deaf-blind. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, NCDB builds on the technical assistance activities of NTAC, the information services and dissemination activities of DB-LINK and adds a third focus related to personnel training. NCDB works to bring together the resources of three agencies with long histories of expertise in the field of deaf-blindness, The Teaching Research Institute at Western Oregon University, the Helen Keller National Center, and the Hilton/Perkins Program at Perkins School for the Blind. NCDB works collaboratively with families, federal, state and local agencies to provide technical assistance, information and personnel training. The Consortium focuses on two major purposes as required by OSEP. The first is to promote academic achievement and results for children and youth (from birth to age 26) who are deaf-blind, through technical assistance, model demonstration, and information dissemination activities that are supported by evidence-based practices. Activities are directed toward families, service providers, state deaf-blind projects, state and local education agencies and other organizations responsible for providing early intervention, education, and transition services. The second purpose is to assist in addressing state-identified needs for highly qualified personnel who have the necessary skills and knowledge to serve children and youth who are deaf-blind.

## **National Indian Child Welfare Association**

5100 SW Macadam Avenue, Suite 300  
Portland, OR 97239

**Phone:** (503) 222-4044

**Fax:** (503) 222-4007

**E-mail:** [info@nicwa.org](mailto:info@nicwa.org)

**Website:** <http://www.nicwa.org/>

**Contact Name:** Terry Cross

**Organization Type:** National Organizations and Associations

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

The National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) is the most comprehensive source of information on American Indian child welfare and works on behalf of Indian children and families. NICWA provides public policy, research, and advocacy; information and training on Indian child welfare; and community development services to a broad national audience

including tribal governments and programs, state child welfare agencies, and other organizations, agencies, and professionals interested in the field of Indian child welfare.

### **Oregon Technology Assistance Program (OTAP)**

1871 NE Stephens

Roseburg, OR 97470

**Phone:** (541) 440-4791

**Fax:** (541) 957-4808

**E-mail:** [gayl.bowser@douglasesd.k12.or.us](mailto:gayl.bowser@douglasesd.k12.or.us)

**Website:** <http://www.otap-oregon.org/>

**Contact Name:** Gayl Bowser, Coordinator

**Organization Type:** Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** General / Non-disability Specific

Oregon Technology Access Program (OTAP) provides training, information, technical assistance and resources regarding the uses of technology for children with disabilities. OTAP services are available to anyone concerned with the needs of Oregon children with disabilities from birth to age twenty-one. The program is sponsored by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).

### **The Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation**

1410 S.W. Morrison St, Suite 760

Portland, OR 97205

**Phone:** (503) 827-6952 800-635-4667

**E-mail:** [amber.kern@orlions.org](mailto:amber.kern@orlions.org)

**Website:** <http://www.orlions.org/foundation/index.html>

**Contact Name:** Amber Kern, Executive Director

**Organization Type:** State and Local Organizations

**Disabilities Served:** Deaf / Blind, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Visual Impairment / Blind

The Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation provides sight and hearing assistance to an average of 52,000 Oregonians in need, yearly. They contribute to improving the quality of life for these individuals in many ways. They have the Lions Eye Bank as well as two traveling mobile health screening units that provide preventative health screenings at no charge. Their Patient Care Program provides financial assistance for eye and ear surgeries. The Foundation also operates a children's statewide low-vision clinic and supports a variety of youth development projects. Finally, they maintain a Vision Research Laboratory that has achieved national recognition for developing a revolutionary new technique for corneal transplants.

Oregon Text and Media Center for the Visually Impaired

Kuenzi Hall Room B6

999 Locust Street, NE

Salem, OR 97303

Local Telephone: (503) 763-2413

Email: [larrybrown@wesd.org](mailto:larrybrown@wesd.org)

## **ViewPlus Technologies, Inc.**

1853 SW Airport Avenue  
Corvallis, OR 97333  
541-754-4002 541-738-6505 (Fax)

[www.viewplus.com](http://www.viewplus.com)

ViewPlus Technologies provides a range of products that make mainstream technology accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired, including braille printers, braille translation software, and braille math access software.

ViewPlus provides many products that can be coupled with braille printers, including the following packages: Beginning Braille Aide, Math Made Simple, Inclusive Tactile Learning, and Office Production Assistant.

## **VisionCue**

4858-A SW Scholls Ferry Road  
Portland, OR 97225  
888-318-2582 (Toll free)  
503-297-1510  
503-459-4003 (Fax)  
[www.visioncue.com](http://www.visioncue.com) E-mail: [kmmarks@visioncue.com](mailto:kmmarks@visioncue.com)

VisionCue is the national distributor of some of the most widely used products by people who are blind or visually impaired. VisionCue distributes the ALVA line of Braille Displays, which includes the BC640 forty-cell display, and BC680 eighty-cell display.

VisionCue also sell TALKS and Mobile Speak screen readers for cell phones and cell phone applications such as the Wayfinder and Mobile Geo GPS navigation systems.

Other products include Optelec CCTVs for desktop use, portable CCTVs that connect to a notebook, and hand-held magnification systems.

## **Casey Eye Institute**

General information (503) 494-3000  
LOCATIONS

- Casey Eye Institute - Marquam Hill  
3375 S.W. Terwilliger Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon  
97239-4197  
Phone: 503.494.3000 / 888.222.6478 | Fax: 503.494.5446
- Casey Eye Institute - South Waterfront

3305 S.W. Bond Ave.  
Portland, Oregon  
97239-4501  
503 494-7672

- Casey Eye Institute - Vancouver

16701 S.E. McGillivray Blvd.  
Vancouver, Washington  
98683-3485

At the Casey Eye Institute, every member of our team is dedicated to a single mission: to promote the best possible eye health for you through education, research, clinical leadership and service to the community.

Casey is a world-recognized academic regional eye center that attracts top specialists from around the globe. We are known for developing and utilizing the very latest treatments and technologies.

## **Oregon Commission for the Blind**

### **Portland Headquarters**

535 SE 12th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97214

Phone: 971-673-1588

Phone: 888-202-5463

Fax: 971-673-1570

TTY: 971-673-1577

Oregon Commission for the Blind has been an important resource for visually impaired Oregonians, as well as their families, friends, and employers.

Our mission is to assist blind Oregonians in making informed choices and decisions to achieve full inclusion and integration in society through employment, independent living, and social self sufficiency.

Our nationally recognized programs and expert staff work with the visually impaired to instill confidence and build skills in all aspects of day-to-day life: from grocery shopping to reading to surfing the Web.

We are headquartered in Portland, but have field offices and resources available in Salem, Eugene, Lincoln City, Bend, Redmond, Medford, and Roseburg.

## Northwest Regional Education Services District

### Contact Information

DiAnne Fentress-Rowe

Coordinator for Vision Services - Washington County

503-614-1260 (phone)

503-614-1621 (fax)

[dfrowe@nwresd.k12.or.us](mailto:dfrowe@nwresd.k12.or.us) (email)

At Northwest Regional, **Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs)** and **Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Teachers** travel throughout four counties to provide services to visually impaired students, their families, and school staff. Many different services can be provided to eligible students depending on their unique needs and the decisions of their IFSP/ IEP teams.

If a student is found eligible for services Teachers of the Vision Impaired help district teams develop an Individual Family Support Plan or Individual Educational Program for the student and collaborates with team members and community service providers to implement plan.

The skilled staff evaluate and assess each referred student. An evaluation may include:

- A Functional Vision Assessment used to determine eligibility and measure how the student uses his or her vision at school.
- A Learning Media Assessment which is required by law for all visually impaired students to determine the preferred way the student learns.

An Orientation and Mobility Assessment used to determines eligibility for travel related training.

### **Sources of Custom-Produced Books**

La Grande

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*Blue Mountain Braille Center*

*104 Main Avenue*

*La Grande, OR 97850*

*(541) 963-0539*

*smartdots@aol.com*

*Coordinator: Janine Robinson*

*Braille:* literary, textbooks, computer-related manuals, some foreign language; can provide print/braille documents; spiral binding; computer-produced

*Large print:* (up to 24 pt) general, textbooks; spiral binding; computer-produced

*Other Information:* nonprofit, fee for service

## Portland

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*Independent Living Resources*  
4506 South East Belmont Street  
Portland, OR 97215  
(503) 232-7411  
(503) 232-7480 fax  
ilr@teleport.com  
Chairperson: Betty J. Carson

*Braille:* literary, math, textbooks, computer notation, French, German, Japanese, Spanish; tactile drawings and maps; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (Ed-It, Megadots, Microbraille); embosser (Thiel, Juliet)

*Recording:* general, textbooks, computer science; cassette masters; 2-track and 4-track cassette duplication

*Other Information:* sponsors transcribing classes, maintains book-master collection

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*Oregon Textbook & Media Center for the Visually Impaired*  
531 South East 14th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97214  
(503) 916-5840  
(503) 916-2727 fax  
lbrown@pps.k12.or.us  
Manager: Larry Brown

*Braille:* textbooks only; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (Ed-It PC, Duxbury, MegaDots); embosser; (Thiel and Juliet)

*Other Information:* fee for service out of state and limited loan

## Salem

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*Talking Book and Braille Services*  
Oregon State Library  
250 Winter Street NE  
State Library Building  
Salem, OR 97301-3950  
(503) 378-3849  
Chairperson: Marion Dehut

*Recording:* books written by Oregon authors (born or living in Oregon), children's and adult titles, fiction/nonfiction; 4-track cassette duplication

*Other Information:* accepts no assignments outside state, maintains book-master collection