



PERKINS REACHES NEARLY 2 MILLION INDIVIDUALS EVERY YEAR
Innovative education solutions since 1829

A SCHOOL OF FIRSTS

- The first school for people who are blind in the United States
- First school in the world to formally educate a person who is deafblind (Laura Bridgman, 1837)
- Both Helen Keller and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, were educated at Perkins
- The first kindergarten for children who are blind (1887)
- The first to introduce education for families of babies who are blind in Massachusetts

WE ARE GLOBAL

- Annually, Perkins International serves more than 70,000 children, families, caregivers and educators through hundreds of programs all over the world.
- Thousands of education professionals have been trained in their home countries.
- Each year, educators from a dozen or more nations attend the Perkins Educational Leadership Program on our Watertown, Mass., campus.
- The Perkins Braille[®], the worldwide standard braille-writing machine, is used in 170 countries.
- More than 1.9 million people use Perkins.org online resources every year

WE ARE LOCAL

- Approximately 500 Massachusetts babies receive early education services from Perkins.
- 200 students from preschool through high school attend Perkins School for the Blind every day; nearly half of our students live on campus.
- Hundreds of public school students are taught by Perkins professionals in their community schools or attend Perkins Outreach weekend or summer programs.
- Perkins trains more than 6,000 professionals from New England and beyond each year.
- More than 1,300 individuals volunteer their time and services each year.
- Close to 30,000 Perkins Library patrons access more than 100,000 books in digital audio format, in braille or online

THE NEED IS GROWING

- Worldwide, WHO estimates 285 million people are blind, deafblind or have low vision. Roughly 19 million are young children, many of whom have no access to education simply because they are blind.
- In 25 years, the number of blind people in the U.S. will double according to CDC reports.
- As more babies survive prematurity, many have disabilities that include impaired vision.
- 90% of children who are blind go to public school, but still need specialized training.
- Less than half of Americans with a visual impairment participate in the workforce.

Perkins.org

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