



Perkins Offerings

Perkins Admission and Evaluations

- Apply for Enrollment or Request an Evaluation
- Virtual Information Sessions with Program Leaders and Experts
- Complimentary CVI consultations and requests for future on-campus evaluations - contact our CVI Case Manager at Susan.Symons@Perkins.org
- Questions? Contact Evaluations@Perkins.org or Admissions@Perkins.org for more information.

Perkins Infant Toddler Programs

- Tele-Visits - In collaboration with early intervention programs, our teachers provide coaching strategies for families and teams, in accordance with the Massachusetts EI model of PIWI (Parents Interacting with Infants)
- Attend remote transition planning conferences and eligibility meetings for Special Education
- Questions? Contact Teri.Turgeon@Perkins.org for more information.

Perkins Educational Partnerships (Itinerant TVI, OM, DB Services)

- Remote Services - currently no waitlist!
- Questions? Contact Teri.Turgeon@Perkins.org for more information.



[Perkins Outreach Programs](#)

- Remote programming beginning **July 6, 2020**
- If legally blind, funding is available through [MCB](#) (Massachusetts Commission for the Blind) for students ages 14 and up. Contact Teri.Turgeon@Perkins.org for more information.

Resources

[Paths to Literacy](#)

[Paths to Technology](#)

[Perkins Research Library](#) - Access to research articles during remote instruction

[AIM Library](#) - Legally blind school-age students should be registered with AIM Library (Accessible Instructional Materials Library). Check out the free educational materials.

[Perkins E- Learning](#)

Need Braille Support? Perkins has started a remote braille transcription service during COVID-19. Contact Kim.Charlson@Perkins.org for more information.

[New England Low Vision](#) - For students needing access to technology. Contact Scott Krug at info@nelowvision.com for more information.



[New England Consortium on Deafblindness](#)

[National Braille Press Bookstore](#)

[Seedlings Book Angel Program](#) - Blind and Visually Impaired children can receive three free braille books per year!

[Described and Captioned Media Program](#) - A free resource for teachers and families. There is a large variety of subjects and grade levels. There is also an iOS app.

Thoughts to share with ECC families

From Teri Turgeon, Director of Community Programs at
Perkins

This amazing conference is what first brought me and my family to Perkins 23 years ago. I had never met another parent, or even another blind baby. We reached out to Perkins and it changed our lives forever. From the time that we wheeled her stroller onto the campus, I came to recognize children and families that looked like us.

Having said that, I will admit that I found myself “part of a club” I never would’ve elected to join.....but today, I’m so proud to be a part of.

Here, I found the resources and supports to not only help my daughter, but also our family.

Words of advice from a mom who worked hard to do it all right, and at times made plenty of mistakes:



1. No one has a more long term vested interest in the outcomes of your child, than you do. No one knows your child better than you do!
2. Remember that there is MORE that makes up “who your child” is, than their medical diagnoses, their eye condition or their special education needs. Celebrate your whole child!
3. Have high expectations for your child!
4. Remember that your child is part of a larger family. Be sure to find time to spend time with siblings, support them and their needs as well.
5. Be sure to remember that you’re more than just a parent - pay attention to your partner and other important relationships, and take care of yourself as well.
6. Know that you will need to work hard on collaborating with others. This will be very hard at times. Rely on others; find support with either friends or other parents, who understand and know first-hand the joys and challenges of raising a child with a visual impairment. Perkins can help you connect with other parents 0-3.
7. As your children enter school, be sure to learn what your rights are as parents, and what your children are entitled to. Work first collaboratively, but when all else fails and sometimes it will, be sure to know your due process rights.
8. Know that sometimes, like any parenting you will make mistakes, and that’s ok.
9. Being a parent of a child who is blind, or visually impaired with or without additional disabilities, requires you to be a quasi-medical, legal, vision and special education expert.... But also remember to just be a parent!