# Deaf-Blind Child Count Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

#### What is the date for the deaf-blind child count?

The deaf-blind child count is conducted annually, on December 1st. Data should be reported for those individuals who qualify for deaf-blind services as of that date.

## What format should date of birth data be reported in?

Date of birth data must be reported in *three separate month, day, year columns*. All columns must be numerically formatted. Year data must be reported in a 4 digit format.

## How should I report unknown data in columns specified as 2 digit or 4 digit (mo/yr)?

The 3 digit 999 code for “Missing” should be used for all fields in which the data is missing or unknown including all month fields (2 digit) and year fields (4 digit).

## ID Code and Child Number, why both?

Child Number was added to create a unique code for tracking an individual across multiple years on the child count. Many states use ID Code for their own tracking purposes, so it was retained for that purpose.

## Should we include kids that have a referral status (at-risk) on child count? Some states include them, some don’t, what should we do?

If an individual meets the projects criteria as deaf-blind as of the December 1 count date include them. If you are still unsure if they are indeed deaf-blind, don’t include them until you are sure.

## Can I indicate more than one race/ethnicity code for a particular individual?

Only one code is allowed in each field. A code of 7 in the Race/Ethnicity field is available to indicate “Two or more races,” however it is not possible to indicate the specific races.

## Who is qualified to document vision or hearing loss for inclusion on the child count?

States have varying requirements on assessing vision and hearing loss and the professionals that are permitted to make this determination. For example, some states allow children to qualify as having a documented vision loss through a functional vision evaluation conducted by a teacher of the visually impaired whereas other states require a medical report from a medical professional. State projects should follow their state regulations/guidelines on identifying a child as having a documented hearing and vision loss.

## Sometimes if light perception only, will be legally classified as Legally Blind - how should this be coded?

Use the one code that best describes that individuals visual impairment (in the better eye with correction where appropriate.)

## Is it okay to have Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) indicated and no primary classification of hearing impairment indicated?

Yes, if appropriate to individual hearing impairment. Also, in some instances it may be appropriate to have a primary classification of hearing impairment and CAPD marked.

## How should I report an individual who is deceased or exited the program?

Report most recent data for that individual on the next child count after the individual’s death before removing them from the child.

## An individual has moved in state, but the D-B project has not received permission from parents to contact the new school district. How should they be reported under Part B Exiting Status?

If it is known they are in a new school district they should be reported as “Moved, known to be continuing.” There need not be evidence that the student is continuing in special education, only that he or she is continuing in an education program. If it is unknown whether the student is in an education program, report as “Dropped out.” If later the D-B project gains permission, the student can be added to child count again at that time.