

Use of Interveners as a Support for Students who are Deaf-Blind

What is an intervener?

An intervener is an individual, typically a para-educator, who has been specifically trained to provide consistent access to instructional information typically gained through vision and hearing. Interveners are used with increasing frequency to meet the unique needs of students who are deaf-blind. Students are better served because of their intervener's specialized training and expertise in providing high-quality deaf-blind services. Intervener training programs are aligned with CEC competency standards.

Advantages of an Intervener in Educational Settings:

- Provides access to information and communication at the level of the student.
- Facilitates the development of social and emotional well-being for children who are deaf-blind.
- Provides consistent one-to-one support to a student who is deaf-blind throughout the instructional day.
- Provides consistent access to instruction and environmental information while working under the direction of the classroom teacher or other individual responsible for ensuring implementation of the IEP.



To learn more about interveners and how families and educational teams determine if a child with deaf-blindness would benefit from one, check out the resources listed below for more information:

[Nationaldb.org/intervener-interveners.org](https://nationaldb.org/intervener-interveners.org)

Intervener Training Resources:

www.nationaldb.org

National Intervener Certification E-portfolio (NICE)
<https://www.nationaldb.org/national-initiatives/iqp/national-intervener-certification-eportfolio/>

Open Hands, Open Access D/B Intervener Learning Modules (OHOA)
<https://www.nationaldb.org/products/modules/ohoa/>

Utah State University Deafblind Intervener Training Certificate
<https://www.usu.edu/online/degrees/certificate/deafblind-intervener-training-certificate/>

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