

St. Joseph's School for the Blind is a Jersey City-based nonprofit, non-sectarian agency accepting children with visual impairments and multiple disabilities of every race, creed and national origin. It has the approval of the New Jersey State Department of Education, and is licensed by Medicaid and the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities. The School's state-of-the-art facility is LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified by the United States Building Council.

St. Joseph's currently employs 103 teachers, specialists and administrators and serves a combined 255 children and adults in the School's programs for those with special needs.

Early Intervention Program (EIP)

Since 1990, St. Joseph's teams of specialists have been providing critical instruction to infants and toddlers, birth to three years of age, who are blind/visually impaired and have additional disabilities and their families in natural settings.

Each child receives individualized instruction in the areas of vision stimulation, sensory integration and self-help skills. The goal of the EIP is to assist each child in reaching their fullest potential by attaining social and emotional developmental milestones. Through active learning and floor play techniques, infants and toddlers learn to use all of their senses to understand the world around them.

St. Joseph's EIP currently serves in 10 counties across New Jersey.

St. Joseph's School for the Blind

The School provides a full-day academic program to students ten months per year, with an extended school year program from July through August. The program serves students, ages 3 to 21 with the pragmatic skills of personal independence and academics needed to live and work in the community as well as the opportunity to make the very best of their unique abilities.

The education program follows the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS) with enhanced instruction in daily living skills, pre-vocational skills, communication, sensory motor skills, orientation and mobility and personal-social skills. Art, music and community integration activities are also an integral part of the total educational program of the School.

Adult Services

St. Joseph's Adult Services is a self-directed day program that supports the acquisition and practice of life skills in a safe and encouraging environment.

Under the direction of an experienced staff and housed on the St. Joseph's campus, adults receive instruction in the areas of personal care, social skills, vocational training, meal preparation, personal finances, home management, community participation and more.

In-District Services

St. Joseph's has also met the increased demand to provide specialized training to students with visual impairments attending public schools in their home-school district.

St. Joseph's Teachers of the Blind & Visually Impaired serve students in 12 school districts across New Jersey. On-site instruction in these districts includes vision, braille and orientation and mobility services.

