



## **Glossary of commonly used Vision Services terms**

**Accommodation** - Ability of the lens to adjust its shape in order to produce a clear image, in the back of the eye, on the retina.

**Achromatopsia** - Color blindness.

**Acuity** - Measure of detail and shape recognition vision.

**Amblyopia** - Dimness of vision without any apparent impairment or disease.

**Aniridia** - Incomplete formation of iris.

**Anophthalmia** - Absence of eyeball.

**Aphakic** - Absence of the lens of the eye.

**Astigmatism** - Optical distortion usually caused by irregular corneal curvature which prevents a clear focus of light at any point on the back of the eye.

**Blepharitis** - Inflammation of the eyelid.

**Blindness** - Lack of perceivable light perception.

**Cataract** - Cloudiness of the lens.

**Coloboma** - Cleft or defect in the pupil of the eye.

**Conjunctivitis** - Inflammation of the transparent membrane lining the inner or outer surface of the eyelid.

**Corneal opacification** - Scarring or deterioration of the cornea which causes degrees of cloudiness of the cornea.

**Diplopia** - Double vision

**Divergence** - Turning outward of both eyes.

**Esotropia** - Observable turning inward of one or both eyes.

**Exotropia** - Observable turning outward of one or both eyes.

**Glaucoma** - Disease associated with excessive pressure within the anterior chamber of the eye.

**Hemanopsia** - Impaired vision in half of the visual field.

**Hyperopia** - Farsightedness. Individuals have better near point vision.

**Legal Blindness** - A visual acuity that is 20/200 to 20/400, or visual fields of 20 degrees or less.

**Low Vision** - A visual acuity that is between 20/70 to 20/160 and cannot be corrected.

**LP** - Abbreviation used to denote light perception or the ability to distinguish light from dark.

**LPP** - Abbreviation used to denote light projection or the ability to perceive and localize light.

**Microphthalmia** - a smaller than normal eye.

**Myopia** Nearsightedness. Individuals have poor distance vision.

**NLP** - Abbreviation used to denote no perceivable light perception or the inability to distinguish light from dark.

**Nystagmus** - Involuntary, regular, rapid movement of the eye.

**O.D.** - Abbreviation used by ophthalmologists to indicate the right eye.

**Optic Nerve atrophy** - Deterioration of the optic nerve interfering with transmission of visual information from the retina to the brain.

**Optic Nerve hypoplasia** - Small underdeveloped optic nerve.

**Ophthalmologist** - An M.D. licensed to practice medicine who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and defects of the eye.

**Optometrist** - A licensed non-medical practitioner who measures refractive errors and eye muscle disturbances and prescribes glasses, low vision aids and exercises.

**O.S.** - Abbreviation used by ophthalmologists to indicate the left eye.

**O.U.** - Abbreviation used by ophthalmologists to indicate both eyes.

**Partially Sighted** - Visual impairment that adversely affects a student's educational performance even when corrected to the best extent possible.

**Peter's Anomaly** - A genetic disorder in which the normally clear cornea is hazy and white.

**Photophobia** - Light sensitivity.

**Ptosis** - A droopy eyelid.

**Refractive Error** - A defect in the eye that prevents light waves from finding a direct focus on the retina.

**Retinal Detachment** - Separation of the retina from the underlying layers of the eye.

**Retrolental Fibroplasia** - A destructive vascular and fibrous overgrowth of the retina occurring in premature infants placed in environments of high concentration of oxygen.

**Strabismus** - Inability of both eyes to look directly at an object at the same time.