

# OCDBE

THE OHIO CENTER FOR  
  
DEAFBLIND EDUCATION

Professional Learning  
Opportunity

The Ohio Center for Deafblind Education • 3246 Henderson Rd. • Columbus, OH 43220 • 614-897-0020 • [www.ohiodeafblind.org](http://www.ohiodeafblind.org)

## You are Invited to attend a Professional Learning Series *Educational Assessment, Intervention, and Support Unique to Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities*

Presented by  
**Melinda Wolford, PhD, NCSP**

School assessment teams are responsible for evaluating and participating in the identification of students with disabilities. Although each child presents unique learning characteristics, children who have a combined vision-hearing loss (deafblindness) and/or more complex delays or deficits present assessment challenges for the evaluation team. A student's needs may be masked by the severity of a vision-hearing loss or by concomitant multiple disabilities. *Educational Assessment, Intervention, and Support Unique to Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities* is designed to assist school psychologists and evaluation team members in developing an intentional, individualized assessment profile to identify the needs of individual students and using assessment data in the development of individual instructional intervention plans and in progress monitoring.

**Speaker:** *Melinda Wolford, PhD*, is an experienced school psychologist and neuropsychologist, and previously served as an assistant professor in school psychology with expertise in assessment and intervention, parent training, staff development, and consultation.

**Target Audience:** School psychologists, speech-language pathologists, related services providers, other educators, parents

**Session Description:** The four-session professional learning series covers a variety of topics related to the assessment of children with deafblindness and low incidence disabilities. The date, title of the session, and learning objectives for each session are listed below. **All sessions will be held from 4:00 to 5:15 pm ET.** Participants may register for one or more of the sessions by clicking on the session's registration link.

**Contact hours:** One contact hour (1) is available for each session.



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 Systems Development & Improvement Center

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## **Session 1: Cognitive Assessment for Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities**

**Date:** February 17, 2021

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Identify an array of skills that must be considered for a comprehensive picture of intellectual functioning
2. Explore standardized assessment tools, approaches, and methods to capture the skills of children with complex needs
3. Discuss modifications and/or adjustments in standardized assessments that may assist in identifying a child's abilities
4. Explore alternative assessment techniques to obtain a comprehensive picture of skills
5. Report assessment concessions to reflect a child's capabilities for use in educational planning and the design and implementation of instruction and intervention

**Registration Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLSwolfordsession1>

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## **Session 2: Assessing and Supporting Sensory Impairments in Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities**

**Date:** March 17, 2021

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Discuss the variance of sensory interpretations of children with concomitant impairments
2. Explore tools and multiple assessment pathways to identify the child's diverse sensory interpretations and approaches
3. Recognize sensory needs that limit access to education and social development
4. Identify sensory-driven behaviors that impede progress
5. Plan instruction and interventions for individuals with sensory needs

**Registration Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLSwolfordsession2>



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### **Session 3: Identification and Expansion of Social-Emotional Development in Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities**

**Date:** April 14, 2021

#### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Explore different evaluation approaches to obtain a reliable picture of social development, skill, and need
2. Understand how the child with concomitant sensory impairments create unique challenges for perspective and concept development
3. Consider outstanding demands of concurrent deficits that complicate the child's relationship to the outside world
4. Design intervention plans to maximize social emotional development specific to each child's unique skills and social opportunities

**Registration Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLSwolfordsession3>

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### **Session 4: Assessment and Intervention for Behavioral Concerns in Children with Deafblindness and Low Incidence Disabilities**

**Date:** May 12, 2021

#### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Understand intended purpose of behavioral responses through functional behavior analysis specific to each child
2. Design preventive and reactive behavioral intervention strategies to address communicative intent, sensory needs, and frustrations
3. Consider how the student's difficulty in recognizing, trusting, and bonding with others can impact behavior
4. Recognize the importance of individual differences and fascinations in modifying unwanted behavioral responses

**Registration Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PLSwolfordsession4>



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