



Minnesota State Academies

Faribault, Minnesota



2 Academies –

Minnesota State Academy for the Blind (MSAB) – serving blind, visually impaired, and deafblind students

Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf (MSAD) – serving deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deafblind students

Some students attend classes or receive services on both campuses, depending on their individual needs.

We serve students statewide – students come from more than 60 districts and we also provide resources and supports for many others.



MSAD Educational Programs

Starting at 18 months of age – through 21 years of age.

Age-appropriate academics, curriculum, language development, and critical thinking skills.

ASL-English Bilingual Instruction Program

A+ Transition Program for older students



MSAB Educational Programs

Starting in Kindergarten – through 21 years of age.

Age-appropriate academics, curriculum, language development, and critical thinking skills.

Braille, Orientation and Mobility, and Music programs

Expanded Core Curriculum

A+ Transition Program for older students



Whole Child Development:

Athletics, Music, Drama, Organizations/Clubs, After School Programs

Provided to develop students' abilities, knowledge, and skills in various areas – academics, language, social-emotional skills, mental health, communication, problem solving, teamwork, self-advocacy, and so forth



Residential Programs

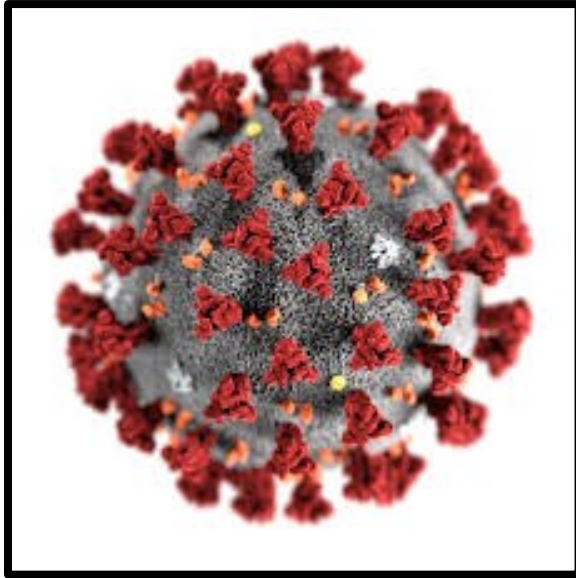
Incorporates after school educational programs – including athletics, extracurricular activities, workshops, independent living skills, and other daily life skills necessary for life after graduation.



Funding:

We are funded primarily through a biennial appropriation from the state legislature rather than by the funding formula that applies to other districts in Minnesota.

We are not able to issue any tax levies or bonding and rely on legislative action to fund all needs on our campus.



Challenges during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

Improving Accessibility

Health/Safety and Accommodations

Distance Learning

Anti-Bias/Anti-Racism



**MINNESOTA
STATE ACADEMIES**
FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Our requests for the next biennium:

- **Operating Budget increase**
 - Rising operating costs – insurance, benefits, salaries, etc.
 - **Funding for Necessary Positions**
 - IEP mandated services; support for students statewide; appropriate staffing levels
 - **Retention of Rental Income**
 - Professional development opportunities – evolving student population
 - **Technology Initiative**
 - Renewal of previous technology initiative – mass communication system for safety and access; updating of systems and educational technology
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