

Dear Parents or Guardians,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC) and your child's school district are in the process of completing the Annual Federal Quota Registration of Blind Students through the American Printing House (APH) Federal Quota Program. This federally-funded program provides textbooks, educational aids, and other learning materials for qualifying children with visual impairment and blindness.

In order to be included in the Federal Quota Program, eligible students must be registered in an annual census, requiring the exchange of specific personally identifiable student information (PII). This information is only collected to meet the reporting obligations to the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, and other entities as required by law. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires your consent to release your child's personally identifiable information for these purposes.

The name(s) of your child(ren) will be registered, along with other pertinent information including birthdate, school district, grade placement, primary reading medium, and indication of visual function. All PII collected for this registration is confidential and will be protected from unauthorized access or use. Your child's PII will not be shared with any other entities or for any other purpose, unless permitted by state or federal law.

The Federal Quota Census Registration is completed under the supervision of the Ex Officio Trustee (EOT) designated to oversee his or her respective APH accounts. It is the responsibility of the EOT to submit accurate information to APH in a secure manner; therefore, the EOT determines the manner in which information is collected and subsequently sent to APH in Louisville, KY.

Your written consent is required in order to provide this information to APH. Consent to include your child in the Federal Quota Census allows the MIRC to purchase products and materials from the APH on behalf of your child and other children in our state. You may choose not to provide your consent; however, doing so will mean that fewer quota funds will be provided to Mississippi.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the annual Federal Quota registration process, please contact Dr. Jeremy Stinson, MIRC Director, at jstinson@mdek12.org or (601)984-8226.

Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC)

Consent to Release Student Information

In order to register my child with MIRC and the American Printing House for the Blind (APH*), I hereby authorize the local school district and/or MIRC to share my child's personally identifiable information as follows: last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, school district, grade placement, visual function, primary and secondary reading medium, and cross reference of siblings also registered (to prevent duplication of registration).

I, _____ (print parent's name),

certify that I am the parent(s)/guardian(s) of

_____ (print student's name),

whose date of birth is

_____ (student's complete date of birth),

and that s/he is a dependent according to Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code if s/he is over eighteen years of age. I understand that this release will remain in effect unless I revoke it in writing. I further understand that I can revoke this release at any time by sending an email to jstinson@mdek12.org.

Parent's Signature

Date

*APH is a nonprofit organization for the blind. According to the Federal "Act to Promote the Education of the Blind", all students who meet the definition of blindness can receive specialized textbooks and accessible materials through the APH Federal Quota Program.