Condition Name: Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis

Description: Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis is a genetically inherited condition in which both parents carry a recessive gene since they do not experience symptoms. Many parents are unaware they are carriers until one of their children is affected. Leber’s begins to affect vision from birth to the first few months getting progressively worse. At this time there is no treatment.

Effects on Vision: Leber’s affects the rods and cones so both the visual field and visual acuity are severely affected. The dystrophy of the retina includes black specking narrowing of the retinal arties and the optic disc becoming pale. This condition often results in blindness.

Educational implications: Students with Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis often have a severe visual impairment since both acuity and their fields are impacted. Therefore most students will need to use Braille. They will also require extensive training and support from and Orientation and Mobility Instructor.