



Pennsylvania
Association
for the Blind

FALL CONFERENCE

November 12-14, 2025

The Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center – State College, PA

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 12

(All sessions will be held in Room 208)

10:00 AM Conference Check In opens (Registration Desk 1)

12:00 PM Lunch & Welcome – PAB Staff – Senate Suites

2:00 PM Team Building – Arletta Shenfeld

Just two hints on this one – “build ‘em up” and “knock ‘em down” – because this will be cooperative AND competitive.

3:00 PM Latino Connection – George Fernandez

Working together to strengthen our efforts in reaching the Latinx community

4:00 PM Resiliency & Coping Skills for the Visually Impaired – Bob Williams

****Dinner is on your own****

Thursday, November 13

All Day	PR Project – Video Filming
Room 211	Each agency must take a few minutes to stop in and record a brief video for the upcoming PAB PR project.
All Day	Vendor Exhibits
Room 206	
9:00 AM	TSS: New & Innovative Devices – Various Vendors
Room 207	This year we'll feature an Exhibit Room in 206. During this first session, each vendor will have a chance to highlight one of their items. The Exhibit Room will be open until 5 PM to give ample time for obtaining more information about the items.
9:00 AM	PSE: Introduction to the PAB Vision Screener Certification – Arletta Shenfeld
Room 208	PAB has developed a Vision Screener Certification Program for member agency screeners. This introductory session will provide information and materials related to the program.
9:30 AM	PSE: Screening Sites – Group Discussion
Room 208	Discussion: How to find new screening sites; getting your foot in the door; maintaining relations. Bring what works for you!!
10:00 AM	PSE: Spot® Vision Screener – Maryellen O'Keefe-Smith, School Health
Room 208	Hands on training/refresher of using the Spot® Vision Screener. Bring your machines!
11:00 AM	ALL: Children's Vision (Part I) – David A. Wagner, OD
Room 208	Dr. Wagner will be providing information regarding pediatric vision development; the connection of vision to learning; and pediatric eye diseases. The presentation will continue after lunch and include time for Q&A.
12:00 PM	Lunch – Garden's Restaurant
1:00 PM	ALL: Children's Vision (Part II) / Q&A – David A. Wagner, OD
Room 208	
2:00 PM	TSS: Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation – Wendy Davis
Room 207	Funding Assistive Technology: From Home Modifications to Smart Home Technology.

2:00 PM	PSE: Audience Engagement – Kaitlyn Bearinger, Pennsylvania State University
Room 208	A session for those providing education programs, this will provide tips and techniques for keeping children engaged in the program and will cover various age groups.
2:30 PM	TSS: PAB Website Referrals – Arletta Shenfeld / Group Discussion
Room 207	Discussion: What happens when a referral is made through the PAB website? How does a member agency become aware of it? What happens next? Also, is the database connection helpful or just an extra step?
3:00 PM	TSS: Intake Appointment Best Practices – Group Discussion
Room 207	Discussion: What makes a good intake appointment? What resources do you bring with you? How do you make a potential client more comfortable?
3:00 PM	PSE: Referral Follow Ups – Group Discussion
Room 208	Discussion: How to get follow-up results; what methods work for you? Additionally, review of database entry and website enhancements.
4:00 PM	TSS: Networking
Room 207	Meet your colleagues and share ideas
4:00 PM	PSE: PAB Education Program Updates
Room 208	We'll hear of the progress made in updating two of the educational programs
6:00 PM	DINNER – Senate Suites

Friday, November 14

(All sessions will be held in Room 208)

7:15 AM	Breakfast Buffet with Presentation
Senate Suites	We'll start the day early with a "Brunch and Learn" presentation in theme with the remaining sessions.
9:00 AM	2025-26 Legislative Advocacy Plan – Dan Zalewski
	Dan and the Government Relations Committee will present the Legislative Advocacy Plan and the role ALL will play.
11:15 AM	Closing Remarks – PAB Staff