



TEACHER – ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST

Certificated Job Description

IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR:

Coordinator, Assessment and Support

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Provides orientation and mobility instruction, as appropriate, in the following areas: body awareness; laterality; environmental concepts; gross and fine motor skills related to independent travel; sensory awareness, stimulation, and training; spatial concepts; sighted guide procedures; basic protective and information gathering techniques; orientation skills; map skills; cane skills; use of residual vision; low vision aids related to travel skills; residential travel; travel in business districts; procedures for crossing streets, including traffic control signals; use of public transportation systems; procedures for travel and independent functioning in places of public accommodation; skills of daily living; sensory/motor skills in coordination with the appropriate therapist and teacher of the visually impaired and general education teacher.
2. Instructs students with visual impairments in the development of skills and knowledge that enable them to travel independently to the highest degree possible based on assessed needs and the students' IEP.
3. Responsible for students' safety at all times and in all teaching environments while fostering maximum independence.
4. Instructs students and significant adults in the use of technological aids appropriate to the student's disability.
5. Provides training, direction, and supervision of ancillary staff in the area of Orientation and Mobility.
6. Assist the student, parents, special and general education personnel as well as sighted peers in understanding the unique educational needs and learning characteristics of students with visual impairments.
7. Plans, administers, and interprets student evaluations to determine the nature and extent of services needed, present levels of performance, and determine goals and objectives in the I.E.P. to meet unique educational needs of students with visual impairments and provided written reports as required.
8. Use effective behavior management strategies to achieve a functional learning environment.
9. Prepares and uses equipment and materials for the development of orientation and mobility skills, e.g., tactual maps, models, distance low vision aids, and long canes.
10. Keep records, progress reports, attendance reports and other paperwork as assigned; supervise and plan for staff who work with children who are visually impaired.
11. Confer with parents, classroom teachers, physical education teachers, and/or other special education personnel to assist with home, classroom, school environmental modifications, adaptations, and considerations and to ensure reinforcement of appropriate orientation and

mobility skills that will encourage the student with visual impairments to travel independently in these settings.

12. Act as a liaison between the County Office, local school district, parents, and agencies and other contacts of the student with visual impairments to develop and maintain curriculum and standards.
13. Designs and implements ongoing in-service education activities in the area of orientation and mobility for teachers, other professional, paraprofessional, and administrators about the role of orientation and mobility role, service and program.
14. Additional tasks assigned by the coordinator or director of the program.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

A. Personal Qualifications:

1. Knowledge of and willingness to stay abreast of current trends, innovations, and practices.
2. Must possess a private vehicle, valid California driver's license and carry current automobile insurance with at least minimum coverage for public liability and property damage.
3. Fingerprint clearance by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice is a condition of appointment after all other required job conditions have been met.

B. Professional Qualifications:

1. Possess the skills and abilities necessary to provide and coordinate specialized instruction to the visually impaired student in the area of orientation and mobility for the development and maintenance of skills designed to meet students' unique educational needs as indicated in the I.E.P.
2. Must present verification of completion of Child Abuse Mandated Reporter training or obtain verification within six (6) weeks of hire and annually thereafter, as required by the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act.

TRAINING AND/OR CREDENTIALS:

A. Education:

1. Bachelor's Degree (Master's Degree preferred)
2. Appropriate California Credential: Orientation and Mobility
3. Must meet requirements set by the State of California for certification authorization specific to Orientation and Mobility Specialist.

B. Experience:

1. Successful student teaching/instructional experience with the visually impaired.
2. Minimum successful field experience in orientation and mobility.

