

VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

CLASS TITLE: ORIENTATION/MOBILITY SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Executive Director of Special Education or Assistant Superintendent of SELPA, provide training, instructional activities and treatment services to enhance orientation and mobility skills and independence among visually-impaired students; observe, assess and develop and implement instructional, training and remedial plans, strategies and activities in response to student orientation and mobility needs..

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

Provide training, instructional activities and treatment services to enhance orientation and mobility skills and independence among visually-impaired students; develop, implement and provide direct instructional services to facilitate and enhance student transition to independent travel;

Observe students and conduct orientation and mobility assessments and evaluations to identify short and long-term student needs; develop, implement and modify instructional, training and remedial plans, strategies, goals, objectives and activities in accordance with student needs and progress;

Conduct drills, exercises and therapeutic activities with students to enhance orientation and mobility skills in accordance with individual student needs; monitor, evaluate and adjust activities in response to student needs and progress;

Provide instruction to enhance student understanding of gross and fine motor skills, spatial concepts, compass directions, protective techniques, cane skills, street-crossing procedures, telephone use, public transportation and various other independence and traveling skills;

Consult teachers, parents and other relevant parties regarding student orientation, mobility and related instructional, assessment and therapeutic activities; provide information and assistance concerning related principles;

Develop student orientation and mobility skills to enhance proficiency, safety and confidence during walking, wheel chair and other independent travel; assist students with developing appropriate balance and motion during reaching, rolling, standing and walking;

Attend Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and various other staff meetings; participate in the development and implementation of IEP goals and objectives;

Prepare and maintain detailed records and reports related to students, assessments, progress, IEPs and assigned activities; submit billing records to appropriate personnel or department according to established timelines;

Communicate with staff, families and outside agencies to exchange information and resolve issues or concerns;

Utilize and assist students with equipment for enhancing, orientation and mobility skills such as monoculars and canes; operate a computer and assigned software; drive a vehicle to conduct work;

Coordinate, schedule and arrange doctor appointments, meetings and other functions in support of assigned students orientation and mobility services;

Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Principles, practices, procedures and methods involved in developing and enhancing orientation and mobility skills among students with visual impairments;

Principles and practices of orientation and mobility;

Assessment tools and training strategies for students with visual impairments ranging from low vision to blindness;

Problems and concerns of students with special needs;

Practices, theories, procedures and techniques involved in observing students and conducting orientation and mobility assessments and evaluations;

Drills, exercise and therapeutic activities used in enhancing orientation and mobility skills;

Student needs related to proficiency, safety and confidence during waling, wheel chair and other independent travel;

Policies and objectives of assigned programs and activities;

Record-keeping techniques and report preparation;

Interpersonal skills including tact, patience and courtesy;

Oral and written communication skills.

ABILITY TO:

Provide training, instructional activities and treatment services to enhance orientation and mobility skills and independence among visually-impaired students;

Develop and implement instructional, training and remedial plans, strategies and activities in response to student orientation and mobility needs;

Observe students and conduct orientation and mobility assessments and evaluations to identify short and long-term student needs;

Conduct drills, exercises and therapeutic activities with students;

Utilize instructional materials and equipment for enhancing student orientation and mobility skills;

Develop student orientation and mobility skills to enhance proficiency, safety and confidence during waling, wheel chair and other independent travel;

Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action;

Meet schedules and time lines'

Work independently with little direction;

Plan and organize work;
Maintain records and prepare reports;
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: bachelor's degree with course work related to orientation and mobility and one year experience providing orientation and mobility instructional and enhancement services to young children to high school-aged visually-impaired students.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid California State Association of Education & Rehabilitation Workers certification. Valid California driver's license.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Indoor environment. Driving a vehicle to conduct work.

PHYSICAL ABILITIES:

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a variety of equipment. Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching to assist children. Standing for extended periods of time. Seeing to observe student read a variety of materials. Hearing and speaking to exchange information. Walking.