

Job Description

Title: Teacher of the Visually Impaired

Reports To: Director of Special Education

Supervises: Assigned students/staff members

Evaluation: Director of Special Education

Job Summary:

The teacher for students with visual impairments (VI) travels to assigned schools and plans, leads, facilitates, and instructs to enhance student learning for those with a visual impairment through direct and/or consultative special education services. These services enable the students to learn in a variety of settings and meet established outcomes based on student's individual education plan (IEP) and capacity to master learning objectives. The students range in age from three through 21 years and may have visual impairment only, deaf-blindness, or additional disabilities. The cognitive abilities of students served include those with severe cognitive disabilities and those who are gifted/talented.

Qualifications:

Master's degree with appropriate Kansas licensure.

Performance Responsibilities:

1. Perform functional vision and learning media assessments on new referrals and three-year re-evaluations.
2. Interpret eye medical reports as they relate to educational environments.
3. Contribute to the development of the IEP with goals, modifications, learning styles.
4. Recommend appropriate specialized evaluations, including low vision, orientation and mobility, psychosocial, and adaptive physical education.
5. Consult with diagnosticians, classroom teachers, students, and parents concerning appropriate evaluations, modification, and test administration.
6. Obtain modified standardized testing materials and administer or assist in the administration of the test as needed.
7. Work as liaison with other agencies in the vocational assessment process.
8. Participate in team assessments for students with moderate to severe cognitive disabilities and/or deaf-blindness.
9. Monitoring the students' progress in academic subjects and provide instruction in compensatory skills as needed in the areas the students may have difficulty with as a result of the visual impairment (This does not include tutoring in subject areas once materials and methods have been modified to accommodate the vision loss).
10. Provide screening and referral procedures to appropriate personnel.
11. Assist in determining and procuring classroom equipment and materials necessary for the student with visual impairments to learn (i.e. braille, low vision devices, assistive technology, and computer) including ensuring necessary room modifications and lighting changes.

12. Provide the classroom teacher with information regarding the specialized strategies needed to teach a student with VI and with modified materials Braille, recorded/enlarged materials, and tactual symbols as appropriate.
13. Consult with other instructional staff to provide information to incorporate the expanded core curriculum into the entire instructional setting.
14. Provide assistance to students with VI in understanding their attitudes and those of others concerning their visual impairment.
15. Facilitate the registration of students with VI with appropriate services/agencies (i.e. Learning Ally, Kansas State Library, and Bookshare, VI registration, deaf/blind census, textbook projections).
16. Communicate with low-vision specialists, ophthalmologists, and optometrists concerning exams, and attend exams when appropriate.
17. Manage the inventory of the VI equipment and report any malfunctions immediately.
18. Prepare physical condition of the learning environments to facilitate student learning; keep daily records and make reports on student attendance, learning and social needs, assignments, assessments and discipline; supervise paras assigned.
19. Adhere to the district guidelines pertaining to confidential records.
20. Obtain advance approval for all special activities and expenditures.
21. Comply with all district policies, rules and regulations.
22. Other duties as assigned by the Director of Special Education.

Physical Requirements/Environmental Conditions:

Physical and emotional ability and dexterity to perform required work and move about as needed in a fast-pace, high-intensive work environment.