ITINERANT ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY TEACHER

BASIC FUNCTION:
Under the direction of the Administrator, SELPA/Special Education and assigned supervisor, provide individual, direct, and/or consultative services and self-advocacy skills to students in the area of orientation and mobility.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
• Complete initial evaluations, additional assessments and triennial re-evaluations within county, state and federal guidelines; develop legally compliant assessment reports and Individual Educational Programs (IEP), and/or Individual Transition Plans (ITP) and/or Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP).
• Conduct periodic academic assessment and/or performance testing as required.
• Confer and communicate with parents and/or caregivers and professional staff members regarding student progress.
• Design educational program(s) and provide instruction to meet the individual learning needs of students, which have been identified in an IEP/ITP/IFSP, with consideration of the least restrictive environment, including but not limited to self-advocacy skills related to blindness, visual impairment and/or deaf-blind.
• Determine individual goals and objectives based on diagnostic information for each student to meet orientation, mobility and travel needs.
• Determine professional goals and objectives through the assessment and evaluation process.
• Emphasize, at the secondary school level, academic achievement, community access, career and vocational development, and preparation for adult life.
• Maintain professional standards and competence through participation in professional growth opportunities provided by the office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) and in self-directed professional growth activities.
• Monitor student progress on a regular basis and participate in the review and revision of the IEP/ITP/IFSP.
• Prepare and maintain a current work schedule.
• Prepare, maintain and submit accurate records, reports, files and documentation as assigned for each student enrolled, including but not limited to, CASEMIS, Medi-Cal reports and billing, diagnostic information, student goals and objectives, conference information from parents and other professionals; complete and submit attendance records and all other reports; prepare county and/or state reports as assigned and/or required.
• Provide appropriate individual assessment of needed accommodations resulting from vision impairment in regards to orientation and mobility.
• Provide appropriate creative learning experiences in the areas of self-navigation.
• Provide appropriate individual assessment of mobility problems for students with visual impairments.
• Provide individualized instruction to students needing orientation, mobility and/or travel instruction.
• Provide information for and conduct conferences with parents, teachers, administrators and other professional services available from agencies and other concerns.
• Provide information for and conduct conferences with parents, teachers, administrators and other professionals regarding scheduling, student needs, attendance, IEP/ITP/IFSP, services available from agencies and other concerns.
• Provide services to students who are blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind with age appropriate, hands-on experiences and to allow them to learn how to navigate their natural travel settings including home, school and community, become independent travelers and assist in the development of a conceptual understanding of the environment.
• Utilize comprehensive assessment results in developing appropriate IEP/ITP/IFSP goals and objectives to accommodate the wide variety of individual needs of each student.
• Work closely and cooperatively with general education classroom teachers, paraeducators, assigned supervisor, site administrator, Designated Instructional Service (DIS) staff, nurse, psychologist, parents and community agencies to provide a complete program; serve as a liaison to community agencies, parents, districts, contracted service providers, and caregivers.
• Attend and participate in a variety of assigned meetings, committees, conferences, in-services and/or special events.
• Comply with schedules, policies, regulations, procedures, orders, and directives of the County Superintendent.
• Exhibit professionally appropriate interpersonal skills including but not limited to tact, patience, flexibility and courtesy.
• Maintain a safe work environment.
• Operate a variety of office equipment, including but not limited to a computer and assigned software applications.
• Serve as a liaison between County Superintendent and administrators, personnel, outside organizations or the public concerning assigned area.
• Serve as a technical resource concerning assigned program, function or instructional area.
• Work collaboratively and maintain effective working relationships with others in the course of work in assigned area.

OTHER DUTIES:
• Drive a vehicle to conduct work, using own transportation.
• Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:
• Assessment tools, treatment approach and adaptive equipment for students with differing types of visual impairments.
• Conflict resolution and behavior management strategies.
• Current techniques to maintain a safe environment and provide support for physically aggressive individuals in a non-harmful manner.
• Impact of the disability on family interactions and development.
• Physical and sensory patterns of visually impaired students.
• Planning, organization, coordination and implementation of the operations and activities of the orientation and mobility program to enhance educational effectiveness and efficiency of the county office.
• Principles, practices, theories, methods, educational trends, techniques and strategies, pertaining to teaching students who are blind, visually impaired and/or deaf-blind.
• Principles, procedures and techniques in the development and implementation of staff training activities.
• Program evaluation strategies related to students with exceptional needs.
• Research methods, report writing and record keeping techniques.
• Techniques and procedures regarding instruction for orientation and mobility of visually impaired students.
• Proper English usage, grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary in all forms of communication.
• State Education Code, local, state and federal laws, codes, regulations and requirements and county office organization, operations, policies and objectives as related to assigned activities and/or instructional area.
• Theoretical and technical aspects of field of specialty.

ABILITY TO:
• Coordinate communications, information, personnel, and resources to ensure smooth and efficient activities in job assignment and/or assigned program.
• Develop and implement modifications and intervention strategies to match specific student needs.
• Maintain a variety of reports and files related to job assignment and/or assigned program.
• Maintain a safe environment and provide support for physically aggressive individuals in a non-harmful manner.
• Maintain systems, policies, standards and procedures in compliance with a variety of federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations as they relate to job assignment and/or assigned program.
• Monitor and assess operations and activities of assigned program, function or instructional area for educational effectiveness and operational efficiency.
• Plan, organize, coordinate, and implement operations and activities of the orientation and mobility program/area to enhance educational effectiveness and efficiency of the county office.
• Plan, organize, develop and conduct a comprehensive orientation and mobility program for children who are visually impaired.
• Provide appropriate, effective and motivating learning experiences for students from a wide range of socio-economic levels and cultural backgrounds.
• Analyze and evaluate situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
• Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
• Drive a vehicle to conduct work.
• Interpret, apply, and explain rules, regulations, policies and procedures.
• Maintain consistent, reasonably regular, punctual attendance consistent with federal, state and local standards.
• Perform non-instructional duties and responsibilities in an efficient and effective manner.
• Safely and successfully perform essential job functions consistent with federal, state and local standards, including meeting qualitative and/or quantitative productivity standards.
• Work confidentially and with discretion.
• Work independently with little direction.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

EDUCATION:
• Bachelor’s degree.
• Master’s degree in Special Education preferred.
EXPERIENCE:
• Two years serving students with Low Incidence disabilities preferred.
• Special training and/or experience working with students who are blind, visually impaired, and/or deaf-blind preferred.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:
• Valid California Clinical or Rehabilitative Services Credential Orientation and Mobility or eligibility to be granted a Waiver authorizing provision of services to students with identified orientation and mobility needs.
• Valid California driver’s license; when driving for work, maintain automobile liability insurance in accordance with California Insurance Code section 11580.1 or maintain other statutorily authorized financial responsibility.
• Enrollment in the California Department of Motor Vehicles Government Employer Pull Notice Program at time of hire and throughout employment with the County Superintendent.
• Valid defensive driving certificate issued by an authorized agency within one year of date of hire.
• Valid First Aid and CPR Certificate issued by an authorized agency within one year of date of hire.
• Valid Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Certificate issued by an authorized agency within one year of date of hire may be required.
• This position requires a pre-placement medical assessment (paid for by FCSS) at a clinic selected by the county office. Any offer of employment is contingent upon successful certification by designated physician that applicant is able to perform essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:
• Drive a vehicle to conduct work, using own transportation.
• Family or caregiver home environments, childcare, and community settings.
• Office and/or school facility environment; school playground or campus and community based instructional environments, emphasizing age-appropriate student instruction and training.
• Regular interruptions.
• Small and large group meetings.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
• Bending at the waist, sitting on the floor, kneeling or crouching; climb or balance.
• Eyesight corrected or uncorrected sufficient to read a variety of materials including but not limited to fine print.
• Hearing with or without use of hearing aid(s) sufficient to hear any conversation with others; understandable voice and speech patterns.
• Manual dexterity and coordination sufficient to operate office and/or classroom equipment.
• Sitting, standing and/or walking for extended periods of time.
• Use hands to handle and/or feel; reach with hands and arms.
• Must frequently lift, push, pull or carry up to ten (10) pounds and occasionally lift and/or move at least fifty (50) pounds.

The physical demands and working conditions described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this position, subject to reasonable accommodation.
HAZARDS:
• Abusive and potentially harmful outbursts from students which may pose a threat to staff and/or students.
• Possible contact with blood and/or other body fluid(s).

This position description may not be an exhaustive list of all duties, knowledge, or abilities associated with this classification, however it is intended to accurately reflect the principal job elements. Related duties, knowledge, or abilities to those expressly stated may also be required for successful performance of the position.

APPROVED:
Effective: May 14, 2013
Revised: October 8, 2013
Revised Date: April 12, 2018