ITINERANT VISUAL IMPAIRMENT TEACHER

BASIC FUNCTION:
Under the direction of the Administrator, SELPA/Special Education and assigned supervisor, provide assessment and consultation, classroom adaptations and instruction, to enable visually impaired students to function academically and socially with their peers.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
• Arrange and/or prepare instructional materials in suitable media; provide and teach operation of special equipment as needed; plan field trips in support of academic work as assigned.
• Complete initial evaluations, additional assessments and triennial re-evaluations within county, state and federal guidelines and develop legally compliant assessment reports and Individual Educational Programs (IEP), and/or Individual Transition Plans (ITP), and/or Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP).
• Conduct educational assessments related to student access to academic core curriculum and progress towards meeting instructional academic goals; provide instruction and special education support to individuals with a primary and/or secondary disability of visual impairment including blind and deaf-blind, to students from birth through age 22 in services across the continuum of program options available, as assigned.
• 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.
• Demonstrate working knowledge of lesson objectives and effective use of direct teacher instruction; provide appropriate creative learning experiences based on IEP/ITP/IFSP in the areas of self-help and health, language and communication, social behavior, academic skills, and career/vocational skills.
• 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.
• Determine individual goals and objectives based on diagnostic information for each student to meet academic, communication and social 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 data collection and anecdotal records to substantiate student progress toward annual goals to include eye report forms, diagnostic information; student goals and objectives, conference information from parents and other professionals, attendance and all other reports; prepare county and/or state reports.
• 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 and creative learning experiences focusing on integrating and connecting alternate standards aligned to the common core curriculum and the foundational skill areas.

• Provide individualized instruction to students with visual impairments based on current IEP/ITP/IFSP goals including, but not limited to software, electronic devices, large print and/or specialized instruction in Braille.

• 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.

• Work closely with the orientation and mobility instructor to meet student needs.

• Attend and participate in a variety of assigned meetings, committees, conferences, inservices 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 of a variety of office equipment, including but not limited to a computer and assigned software applications.

• 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.

• Behavior management strategies.

• Braille.

• Conflict resolution.

• Current techniques and procedures regarding curriculum and instructional design and delivery systems; program evaluation strategies as they relate to teaching students with exceptional needs.

• Current techniques to maintain a safe environment and provide support for physically aggressive students in a non-harmful manner.

• Emotional, intellectual, physical, sensory and social growth patterns of visually impaired
students.

- Impact of the disability on family interactions and development.
- Planning, organizing, coordination, and implementation of the operations and activities of the visually impaired instructional 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 visually impaired.
- Principles, procedures and techniques in the development and implementation of staff training activities.
- Program evaluation strategies.
- Research methods, report writing and record keeping techniques.
- Techniques and procedures regarding curriculum and instruction in Braille.
- 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 safe environment and provide support for physically aggressive students in a non-harmful manner.
- Maintain a variety of reports and files related to job assignment and/or assigned program.
- 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 curriculum and activities for students with visual impairments to enhance educational effectiveness and efficiency of the county office.
- Plan, organize, develop and conduct a comprehensive teaching and instructional program for children who are visually impaired.
- Prevent and/or intervene appropriately in order to defuse escalating student behavior.
- Provide alternate instructional strategies with specialized equipment, materials and/or Braille instruction.
- Provide appropriate, effective and motivating learning experiences for students from a wide range of socio-economic levels and cultural backgrounds.
- Collect data, 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 visually impaired preferred.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:
• Valid California Education Specialist Instruction Credential - Visual Impairments or eligibility to be granted permit authorizing services to students with visual impairments. holders of the listed credentials authorized to teach children with disabilities in which the primary disability is ‘visual impairment including blindness.’
• 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.
• 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