

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

ORIENTATION & MOBILITY SPECIALIST

DEFINITION

To provide specialized instruction to students with visual impairments that includes training to travel safely and independently; provide assessment and consultation services in area of specialty; and perform related Orientation & Mobility Specialist duties as assigned.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Assess individual abilities and needs of students with visual impairments and provide appropriate levels of directed learning experiences to help students travel safely and independently.

Establish realistic and appropriate goals and objectives for each assigned student.

Plan curriculum and prepare and deliver lesson plans in appropriate sequence.

Consult with parents, staff, counselors, physicians, and outside agencies regarding specific needs for students with visual impairments.

Adjust and individualize instructional/training program for the purpose of providing the most effective specialized services.

Evaluate, through observation, daily performances of each student using checklists and progress charts, and adjust instructional/training activities accordingly.

Attend staff development and other meetings in the course of providing orientation & mobility training to assigned students.

Instruct students in cane travel skills.

Interpret specialized educational program objectives to students, parents, staff members, districts, community members/organizations and others as necessary.

Review, prepare, and maintain records and confidential files, and write reports.

Promote development of positive self-esteem and feelings of accomplishment with students, teachers, and parents.

Participate in professional development activities to maintain/increase competency in assigned Orientation & Mobility Specialist activities.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Modern and effective teaching methods, practices, and techniques, including those within the domain of the required credential.

Applicable rules and regulations pertaining to the Special Education Program.

Design and implementation of effective specialized educational service program appropriate for assigned students.

Skill and Ability to:

Assess individual student needs, establish realistic and appropriate goals and objectives, and design and implement specialized learning programs.

Communicate orally and in writing sufficiently to express ideas, thoughts, and instructions clearly to students and staff.

Plan and conduct a system of continuous evaluation of each student's progress.

Interact with students, staff, parents, and others in an open and constructive manner.

Keep accurate records and submit reports in a timely manner.

Communicate orally and in writing sufficiently to express ideas, thoughts, and instructions clearly to students and staff.

Meet the physical requirements necessary to perform assigned duties in a safe and effective manner for self and others.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Any combination of education, training, and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and skills is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and skills would be:

Education:

Possession of a Bachelor's Degree

Experience:

Recent teaching experience, including experience and/or training within the domain of the required credential.

License or Certificate:

Possession of an appropriate California Teaching Credential (OM).

Possession of a valid Class C California Driver's License.

Insurability by the designed liability carrier for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions. Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Walking frequently on a daily basis; sitting, standing, bending, twisting, climbing occasionally; lifting 50 lbs. maximum with occasional lifting and/or carrying objects weighing 10 to 25 lbs. Frequent use of hands, vision, hearing, speech/language processes; physical strength and emotional stamina sufficient to organize and coordinate a variety of activities; ability to use a variety of specialized instructional and assessment materials and supplies: king cane, monocular, telephone, computer, teaching aids, files, luggage cart, and automobile.

Assigned work is normally performed in a school site or community environment. Frequent travel between school sites, community streets, and shopping areas is required along with continuous contact with school staff, students, parents, medical staff, and community agencies.

Approval Date: October 1995.