

ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST

Basic function

To act as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist for the Santa Barbara County Education Office, Special Education Program. Responsibilities include assessment, instruction for students and consultation for parents and teachers.

Supervision

Directly responsible to the Director of Special Education, North County

Representative duties

- Conduct the Orientation and Mobility Program as established by State and Federal regulations and the Santa Barbara County Education Office.
- Instruct visually-impaired students in the development of skills and knowledge enabling them to travel independently to the highest degree possible, based on assessed needs and the students' Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Teach students to travel with proficiency, safety, and confidence in familiar and unfamiliar environments.
- Provide in-service and consultative/support services to parents, regular and special education teachers, other school personnel, and sighted peers.
- Confer regularly with parents, classroom teachers, physical education teachers, and/or other special education personnel to assist in home and classroom environmental modifications, adaptations, and considerations, and to ensure reinforcement of appropriate orientation and mobility skills which will encourage the visually-impaired student to travel independently in these settings.
- Work with the teacher of the visually-impaired to conduct the functional vision assessment as it relates to independent travel.
- Conduct assessments which focus on both long-term and short-term needs of the student.
- Include in the assessment report the needs and strengths of the student, and an estimate of length and frequency of service necessary to meet identified needs.
- Prepare sequential and meaningful instruction geared to the student's assessed needs, Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals and objectives, functioning level, and motivation level.
- Prepare and use materials and equipment (i.e., tactual maps, models, distance low-vision aids, long canes, etc.) for development of orientation and mobility skills.
- Transport students to various community locations as necessary to provide meaningful instruction in realistic learning environments.
- Assume responsibility for student safety at all times and in all teaching environments while fostering maximum independence.
- Maintain accurate education and attendance records.
- Conduct periodic evaluations to review pupil progress and adjust objectives and instructional procedures as needed.
- Serve as a permanent member of the school's pupil study team.
- Facilitate interagency involvement when appropriate.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

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Qualifications

Possession of a valid California Specialist Instruction Credential authorizing service in an Orientation and Mobility Program; verification of CBEST clearance. Experience and/or training appropriate to fulfill requirements of the position.

Licenses and certificates

Possession of a valid California Driver's License if required by the duties of the assignment.