

Job Title: Itinerant Teacher of Students
With Visual Impairments

Wage/Hour Status: Exempt

Reports To: Director of Special Programs

Dept./School: Special Programs

Primary Purpose:

Provide direct and/or consultative services to eligible students with visual impairment as determined by the ARD/IFSP Committee. Participate in the referral and assessment process of students suspected of having a visual impairment as per district requirements.

Qualifications:

Educations/Certification:

Valid Texas Teaching Certificate in Deficient Vision
Master's and/or Bachelor's Degree

Specific Knowledge/Skills:

Knowledge of special needs of students with visual impairments
Knowledge of Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) process, IFSP Committee process, and Individual Educational Plan (IEP) goal setting process and implementation
General knowledge of curriculum and instruction
Knowledge of assessment as related to students with visual impairments

Experience:

At least one year of student teaching or approved internship

Major Responsibilities and Duties:

Instructional Strategies

1. Conduct functional vision evaluations/learning media assessment. Prepare a written report of results and recommendations to consider in determining student eligibility for service and determining student's educational needs resulting from the visual impairment. This occurs at time of initial placement and subsequently every 3 years unless a significant change in vision or program is noted.
2. Participate in ARD/IFSP Committee meetings of ALL assigned VI students:
assist in developing appropriate IEP goals and objectives, recommend any modifications to curriculum based on the visual impairment, provide the required VI ARD/IFSP forms and assist in their completion for all ARD/IFSP meetings.
3. Provide direct instruction to the student as indicated on the IEP and according to current best practices. Instruction will include academic and nonacademic compensatory skills such as:
efficient use of vision: tracking, discrimination, scanning
use of low vision devices: telescope, magnifiers, cctv's
written communication: pre-braille, braille, nemeth code, keyboarding, slate and stylus.
adaptive devices (braille 'n speak, laptops, adapted software)

tape recorder, abacus, computer, talking calculator
other compensatory skills: activities of daily living, recreation/leisure skills, social skills, listening skills, study skills, organization skills and self advocacy
assist in basic concept development in the following areas: spatial awareness, body image, self concept, etc.

4. Provide regular consultative assistance and inservice training to classroom teachers serving students with visual impairments.

Student Growth and Development:

5. Maintain confidentiality on student information.
6. Conduct ongoing assessments of student achievement through formal and informal testing.
7. Be a positive role model for students; support mission of school districts.

Classroom Management and Organization:

8. Coordinate the ordering, dissemination, and return of specialized textbooks, standardized testing materials, media, and equipment.
9. Plan regularly scheduled school instructional/consultative visits and travel between district schools to provide service to assigned students.
10. Register students with visual impairments with the following as appropriate:
Texas State Library for the Blind
Recording for the Blind
Texas Education Agency (quota funds for VI students)
Deaf-Blind census of Texas
11. Function within the established policies and procedures of the school districts and cooperatives served.
12. Perform other duties as required for Special Education such as:
attend ARD/IFSP, student startings
maintain student folders
update/maintain eligibility folders
follow required duties for Special Education
complete paperwork for reevaluation
maintain materials inventory
maintain current student information for: VI registry

Communication:

13. Communicate with school district staff, staff of other agencies, or parents as necessary for successful implementation of the student's educational program. Consultation services with the following:
Principals
classroom teachers
counselors
diagnosticians
school nurses
district support personnel
Commission for the Blind case workers
ESC Staff
Ophthalmologists
low vision specialists
parents
EC1 agencies
braillists

14. Provide information to parents for summer programs on a timely basis. Summer Camps for the Visually Impaired Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (summer program) Summer work program

Other:

15. Perform other duties as required for the successful completion of the job.
16. Performs other duties as described in the "Roles an Responsibilities of VI Staff" in the VI Co-op handbook.
17. Participate in staff development activities to improve job-related skills.
18. Keep informed of and comply with federal, state, district, and school regulations and policies for teachers.
19. Compile, maintain, and file all reports, records, and other documents required.
20. Attend and participate in staff meetings and serve on committees as required.

Administration:

21. Comply with policies established by federal and state law, the State Board of Education, and the local management board.
22. Comply with all district and campus routines and regulations.
23. Maintain a positive and effective relationship with supervisors.
24. Communicate effectively with colleagues, students and parents.

Professional:

25. Model behavior that is professional, ethical, and responsible.
26. Adhere to applicable state and federal confidentiality standards.
27. Participate in professional development to improve skills related to job assignment.

Supervisory Responsibilities:

None

Working Conditions:

Mental Demands/Physical Demands/Environmental Factors:

Maintain emotional control under stress. Maintain flexibility under changing school conditions and schedule demands.

** Includes information from the Professional School Counselor Performance Evaluation Form and Job Description distributed by the Texas Education Agency, August 1996.*

The foregoing statements describe the general purpose and responsibilities assigned to this job and are not an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and duties that may be assigned or skills that may be required.

Employee _____ Date _____