# ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION TEACHER-RSP

**Definition:**
Provides a program of education for students who are learning handicapped in the Alternative Education Department, serving incarcerated, adjudicated, expelled, habitual truants and students on probation.

Under the general direction of alternative education Administrator or Director, incumbent implements an instructional program which allows the learning handicapped student to achieve his/her individual education program objectives. Incumbents demonstrate extensive knowledge and practical application of behavioral principles, practices, methods and strategies applicable to students who are learning handicapped. Personal qualities include leadership, integrity, fairness, optimism, self-confidence, persistence and vitality.

**Distinguishing Characteristics:**
- Employees in this class receive general direction within a framework of standard policies and procedures related to the educational programs to which they are assigned. This class may work directly with adjudicated and incarcerated youth.
- This job class requires a high degree of knowledge, skills and experience in working with at-risk youth.
- Contacts with others include juvenile probation, social services, other school districts, community-based organizations and agencies.

**Supervision Exercised and Received:**
General direction is provided by the Administrator and/or Director, Court and Community Schools.

**Examples of Duties and Responsibilities:**
*Duties and responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:*
- Provide thorough assessment and diagnostic procedures for the learning handicapped students individualized instructional programs
- Provide behavior modification programs designed for acting-out students in a highly structured behavioral program
- Develop Individual Education Program (IEP) goals and objectives for learning handicapped students
- Work as a member of a trans-disciplinary team for planning and implementing data-based instructional programs
- Develop transition plans to move students to targeted, integrated, district classrooms
- Implement, develop or revise instructional materials which correspond with each student's IEP

- Monitor student progress as it relates to established IEP's
- Maintain effective and cooperative working relationships with students, teachers, staff, parents and other agencies.
- Provide information and support to parents and families when appropriate
- Maintain accurate reports, records and files on individual students
- Assist in identifying, developing and implementing appropriate use of resources for instructional application
- Insure a safe and healthful environment for all students, adhering to all applicable laws, codes and County Office policy
- Perform related duties as assigned

**Employment Standards:**

***Knowledge of:***

- Learning theory based upon the principles of behavior analysis and behavior modification, with an emphasis on positive reinforcement
- Laws, codes and regulations as they relate to special education
- Interagency relationships and effective methods of program coordination

***Ability to:***

- Apply the principles of behavior analysis and behavior modification with an emphasis on positive reinforcement to the delivery of instruction
- Provide instructional methodology which results in student success and the achievement of IEP goals and objectives
- Provide a broad practical application of principles, practices, methods and strategies applicable to students with learning handicaps
- Develop task and activity analysis which correspond with each student's IEP
- Write performance objectives which are measurable, observable and verifiable
- Maintain and improve professional skills and knowledge
- Be flexible and receptive to change

**Education and Experience:**

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

***Education:***

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university; Masters Degree with an emphasis in special education preferred.

***Experience:***

- Three (3) years successful teaching experience working with a wide range of age groups and handicapping conditions preferred.

***Credentials:***

- A valid California Education Specialist Credential with RSP certificate or authorization and an EL authorization is required.

**Work Environment:**

*The following conditions may be present:*

- Walking on uneven ground when outdoors;
- Exposure to student illness, injuries, infections and bodily fluids;
- May be exposed to chemicals contained in cleaning products;
- May be required to maneuver into awkward positions.

**Other Requirements:**

- Must be fingerprinted and a satisfactory Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation records checks must be received by the Sonoma County Office of Education, prior to employment.
- Proof of TB test will be required upon employment.
- Must pass a pre-employment physical (if applicable).
- May be required to obtain first aid and CPR certificates within the first 6-12 months of employment.
- May be required to drive with or without students; some positions may require a current California driver license, proof of insurance, and possible participation in the DMV Pull Notice Program once employed.
- Visual acuity sufficient to read manuals, video display screens, and other related material and work at a computer screen frequently and throughout the day.