SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER-DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

Definition:
Provides a program of specialized instruction and/or services for students who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH).

Distinguishing Characteristics:

- Under the general direction of a special education principal, incumbent assists the site administrators and classroom teachers in designing and implementing an instructional program and/or support services which allows each student to access their educational environment and make progress on their IEP goals/objectives;
- Makes environmental adjustments for DHH students at the school;
- Shares responsibility with the classroom teacher in the identification of instructional areas in which the student requires specialized assistance/supports specific to their DHH needs.

Supervision Exercised and Received:
General direction is provided by a principal and/or assistant principal.

Examples of Duties and Responsibilities:
Duties and Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Initial and on-going assessments designed for deaf and hard of hearing students
- Assist in screening and selecting students for enrollment in DHH services
- Provide instruction and or support to DHH students in the development and maintenance of skills specified in the student's IEP
- Develop transition plans (ITP's) to move DHH student to targeted career, vocational and life skills
- Provide instruction and support in career and vocational education skills in coordination with vocational education staff and/or rehabilitation counselors that coincide with ITP's
- Provide assistance and support to classroom teachers that, as a direct result of hearing impairment, require adaptation
- Work as a member of a trans-disciplinary team for planning, assessing, and developing appropriate IEP/ITP goals
- Establish and maintain effective and cooperative working relationships with students, teachers, staff, parents and other support staff and agencies
- Providing in-service/training to students and staff regarding hearing loss and its implications along with the use of amplification equipment and assistive technology
- Assist in identifying, developing and implementing appropriate use of resources for instructional application specifically for the DHH population

- Provide specialized physical healthcare services, under the training and supervision of a registered credentialed School Nurse
- Provide assistance with Activities of Daily Living
- Perform related duties as assigned

Employment Standards:

Knowledge of:

- The use of amplification equipment (hearing aids, FM/sound field systems, cochlear implants, etc.)
- Auditory training and speech reading practices
- Instruction in oral and written vocabulary and connected language
- Interagency relationships and effective methods of program coordination
- 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
- Practical application of principles, practices, methods and strategies applicable to DHH students
- Providing support across educational environments and systems of service to DHH students
- Assessment of students for initial placement and ongoing assessment of students on the caseload

Ability to:

- Organize, prioritize and deliver a variety of instructional strategies
- Expresses ideas and concepts clearly and concisely in both oral and written form
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with students, teachers, staff and parents
- Work with students that have behavioral challenges

Education and Experience:

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the 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; Master's 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 Special Education (Education Specialist Instruction) Teaching Credential authorizing teaching of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with the EL

authorization or a letter from a college, university or public school district showing enrollment in a Commission-approved intern program and are eligible to apply for an Education Specialist Intern Credential.

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.