

Specification for Class of

ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY SPECIALIST

Abolished Effective July 1, 2007

Definition: Develops and trains individuals to restore orientation and mobility skills to the legally blind.

Typical Work

Assesses client's aptitude for travel instructions; provides individualized travel instruction in basic and advanced cane techniques: local environment, residential travel, public transportation, business travel, and congested business travel;

Teaches clients to travel independently, either on foot or via public carrier, by use of sensory cues, and "long cane" travel technique;

Teaches individually, and in small group settings, basic premobility skills; integrates specific concepts of concern into all phases of the regular curriculum: general sensory training and, specifically, sound localization and basic spatial concepts;

Plans and develops instructional procedures and training schedules;

Evaluates and reports on training results; prepares evaluative reports of client progress and lessons developed;

Explains training program results to client;

Consults with medical professionals relative to client needs;

Consults with teachers, house parents, and families of clients regarding the coordination and reinforcement of a total orientation and mobility program;

Prepares reports and statistical data;

Serves on agency committees as assigned;

Assists in interpretation of program to community; promotes and coordinates assistance and service to other agencies as needed;

May represent the department in meetings with community resources and community service agencies;

May manage a caseload in an assigned geographic area;

Performs other work as required.

Knowledge and Abilities

Knowledge of: psychological aspects of blindness; theory and techniques of training legally blind persons to travel; nature and training of human senses; medical aspects of rehabilitation for blind; psychology of learning; abnormal psychology; human behavior and casework principles.

Ability to: work cooperatively with legally blind people; present ideas clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; maintain records and prepare reports.

Minimum Qualifications

A Bachelor's degree in Special Education, or Rehabilitative Services, or a related field, which includes a minimum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours in an accredited Orientation and Mobility program.

OR

A Master's degree in Special Education or Rehabilitative Services, or a related field, which includes a minimum of 30 quarter hours in an accredited Orientation and Mobility program.

Title change (formerly Mobility Therapist): 11-1-68

Revised definition, minimum qualifications and title change
(formerly Orientation and Mobility Therapist): 7-12-91