Do you value collaboration and working one-on-one with students?

Consider working with students with visual impairments.

**Teachers of students with visual impairments (TVI):**

- Teach students of all ages, birth through high school.
- Evaluate use of vision and its impact on learning and functioning.
- Support instruction in academic skills and functional skills.
- Link with families, teachers, and community agencies.
- Evaluate and teach assistive technology, such as magnifiers and personal braille devices.
- Teach adaptive strategies for social, daily living, recreation, and leisure skills.
- Increase students’ independence through self-advocacy and self-determination.

**Certified orientation and mobility specialists (COMS):**

- Teach students of all ages, birth through high school.
- Evaluate use of vision and its impact on learning and traveling.
- Teach spatial concepts for purposeful movement.
- Teach skills for safe and efficient travel, including skills needed by young children and those with multiple impairments.
- Teach adaptive technology (e.g., long cane, auditory GPS device).
- Increase students’ independence through self-advocacy and self-determination.

**What do I need to know about training?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TVIs</th>
<th>O&amp;Ms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General or special education certification required</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree required, but not teacher certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take 6 courses plus an internship</td>
<td>Take 8 courses plus an internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May apply for tuition stipend</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy support from a TVI mentor</td>
<td>Enjoy support from an O&amp;M mentor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take courses through distance learning options</td>
<td>Take courses through a combination of distance learning options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain Texas certification in visual impairment</td>
<td>Obtain national certification in orientation and mobility</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

General Information

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