

# TEACH BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



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

**Consider working with students with visual impairments**

## Teachers of students with visual impairments (TSVI)

- 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
- Facilitate relationships with families, teachers, and community agencies
- Evaluate and teach assistive technologies such as magnifiers, braille devices, specialized software and hardware
- 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 assistive technology such as long cane, talking GPS device
- Increase students' independence through self-advocacy and self-determination

## General Information

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[VI and O&M Preparation in TX](#)



## What do I need to know about training?

TSVI	COMS
General or special education certification required	Bachelor's degree required, but not teacher certification
Take 6 courses plus an internship	Take 8 courses plus an internship
May apply for tuition stipend	May apply for tuition stipend
Enjoy support from a TSVI mentor	Enjoy support from an O&M mentor
Take courses through distance learning options	Take courses through a combination of distance learning options
Obtain Texas certification in visual impairment	Obtain national certification in orientation and mobility