

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT
CLASS SPECIFICATION

REHABILITATION/MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR TRAINEE

POSITION CODE: 38167
Effective: 10-1-2022

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under direct supervision of a qualified professional, participates in an agency-sponsored training program of six (6) to twelve (12) months duration; completes work assignments designed to develop knowledge, understanding and practical skills consonant with the instruction and counseling of persons who are blind, visually impaired or DeafBlind; assumes increasing responsibility for a case load of customers in an assigned area.

The Rehabilitation/Mobility Instructor Trainee class is divided into two options, the Rehabilitation Instructor and the Orientation and Mobility Instructor:

Option 1: Rehabilitation Instructor - Provides instruction and counseling in independent living skills such as home management, communication strategies, adaptive equipment, assistive technology, and daily living skills to include personal management and care and health and wellness to blind, visually impaired or DeafBlind persons.

Option 2: Orientation and Mobility Instructor - Provides instruction to blind, visually impaired and DeafBlind persons in skills, methods, and techniques to independently travel safely and effectively in familiar and unfamiliar surroundings.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Participates actively in an orientation, in-service and on-the-job training program designed to give a cross section familiarity and intimate knowledge of agency programs, policies, procedures and practices; becomes familiar with current philosophy and programs; becomes knowledgeable of state and federal rules and regulations, instruction techniques, and services available through the department.
2. Option 1 provides rehabilitation instruction in customer's homes or residential setting in specialized techniques of communication (Braille, keyboarding, handwriting), independent living skills, assistive technology, employment readiness and vision skill training.
3. Option 2 provides orientation and mobility skills training to customers in various settings such as residential, school, employment environment, and community including but not limited to human guide, cane, route planning, crossing streets, and use of public transportation and use of assistive technology.

REHABILITATION/MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR TRAINEE (Continued)

4. Completes assignments of increasing difficulty to gain experience and develop working skills; assists in case finding; observes and reviews initial interviews, reviews aptitude and interest exams; consults with supervisory personnel on unique problems; makes recommendations for needed improvement.
5. Observes work activities of a designated Rehabilitation/Mobility Instructor; observes intake procedures, adjustment counseling and instructional techniques.
6. Attends and participates in staff meetings, conferences, workshops, institutes, formal training and other activities which will provide meaningful learning experiences in the field of counseling and instruction.
7. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

Option 1: Rehabilitation Instructor- Requires a master's degree with major coursework in rehabilitation, rehabilitation counseling, rehabilitation teaching, guidance and counseling, orientation and mobility, low vision and blindness, special education or a closely related field.

Option 2: Orientation and Mobility Instructor - Requires a master's degree in Orientation and Mobility from an accredited college or university. All qualifying candidates must have attained certification as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS) within the time parameters of the Rehabilitation/Mobility Instructor Trainee Program.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires skill in establishing a trusting relationship with customers, family members and public and private agencies. Requires ability to develop sequential instructional plans.

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Requires ability to instruct persons who are blind, visually impaired or DeafBlind in skills of independence.

Requires the ability to learn braille and the teaching of reading and writing braille

Requires ability to understand the emotional, environmental and psychological problems confronting individuals who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or DeafBlind.

Requires ability to learn to prepare and maintain accurate and complete written or oral reports and casenote documentation.

Requires ability to learn analysis of case histories and application of basic principles of vocational guidance and instruction.

Requires ability to follow oral and written instructions.

REHABILITATION/MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR TRAINEE (Continued)

Requires ability to provide services in the customer's home, residential setting, or group setting as well as in the built environment.

Requires knowledge in the use of personal computers and software applications and assistive technology.

Requires the ability to understand the effects of cultural diversity as it applies to the provision of linguistically and culturally appropriate services.

Requires ability to physically access the customer's home environment, work environment and use public transportation.

Requires ability to travel to provide services.

In addition to English verbal and written skills, candidates may be required to translate, speak and write a language other than English at a colloquial skill level to perform the duties of the position. Some positions may require candidates to possess specific effective communication skills such as, but not limited to, Braille, sign language or another form of manual communication.