



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind
or Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind
Family Support Division, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind
Jackson County
February 5, 2018**

The Family Support Division, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind, is seeking applications for the position of Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (VRC) for the Blind or a Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (SVRC) for the Blind. This position is based in the Jackson County RSB Office located at 615 East 13th Street, Kansas City, MO.

JOB DUTIES: The Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor works under the general supervision of the District Supervisor but exercises increasing independence and initiative within established agency guidelines.

- Provides rehabilitation counseling services for consumers within an assigned district of the state.
- Conducts in-depth interviews of persons with disabilities to obtain information regarding medical and family history, social functioning, education, work experience, self-perception, attitudes, financial resources, and vocational interests.
- Arranges for and/or administers psychological tests to ascertain consumer's cognitive level, aptitudes, interests, and abilities.
- Collects, analyzes, and interprets medical, psychological, social, educational, and vocational data to determine the consumer's eligibility for services; negotiates, develops, and initiates a rehabilitation program and Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE), emphasizing the determination and achievement of an appropriate vocational goal through consumer participation.
- Manages, as directed, case service needs to ensure quality and cost-effective rehabilitation outcomes.
- Utilizes knowledge of community resources, and accesses other financial resources (comparable benefit analysis required by federal regulations) to reduce rehabilitation costs.
- Achieves employment outcomes by implementing the consumer's IPE through authorizing, purchasing, arranging, referring for, and coordinating services, such as physical and mental restoration; educational and vocational training; computer and adaptive equipment; and job placement based on capacities and informed consumer choice.
- Contacts employers to provide education and assess their needs; develops jobs and coordinates placement of consumers with employers.
- Represents the interest of the consumer regarding disability, independence, and employment; serves as a liaison to their family and support systems, community resources, businesses, government agencies, schools, health care facilities, physicians, service providers, employers, and others.

- Maintains relationships with other State and community support agencies to ensure wraparound employment services in accordance with federal guidelines.
- Travels frequently to conduct home visits, attend meetings and placement follow-ups with employers, and participate in training opportunities.
- Exercises increasing independence and initiative within established guidelines; receives general supervision from a district supervisor.
- Performs other related work as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR VRC: One or more years of experience as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind Trainee with the Missouri Uniform Classification and Pay System.

OR

One or more years of experience as a Children's Specialist for the Blind or Rehabilitation Teacher for the Blind with the Missouri Uniform Classification and Pay System; and, Possession of a Bachelor's or higher level degree with a minimum of 24 earned credit hours in one or a combination of the following: Counseling, Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling, Disability Studies, Human Resources, Business Administration, Special Education, Psychology, or Social Work.

OR

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum of 24 earned credit hours in one or a combination of the following: Counseling, Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling, Disability Studies, Human Resources, Business Administration, Special Education, Psychology, or Social Work; and,

One or more years of professional experience providing services to and/or advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

(A Master's degree from an accredited college or university in the specified fields may substitute for the stated experience.)

OR

Possession of a current Certified Rehabilitation Counselor certification issued by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR SVRC: Two or more years of experience as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind with the Missouri Uniform Classification and Pay System.

OR

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum of 24 earned credit hours in one or a combination of the following: Counseling, Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling, Disability Studies, Human Resources, Business Administration, Special Education, Psychology, or Social Work; and,

Three or more years of professional experience providing services to and/or advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

(A Master's degree from an accredited college or university in the specified fields may substitute for one year of the stated experience.)

OR

Possession of a current Certified Rehabilitation Counselor certification issued by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification.

SALARY RANGE: Annual salary range for VRC is \$35,640 - \$50,112. If filled as a SVRC, annual salary range is \$38,304 - \$54,276.

TO APPLY: Individuals who meet the required qualifications as specified above and are interested in this position **must update the on-line application** at (<https://www.ease.mo.gov/Logon/RegisterOrLogon.aspx>) then print and email that application along with any applicable transcript(s) to Jonni.Clark@dss.mo.gov or fax to (573) 751-4723.

RECRUITMENT AREA: Accepting applications from all qualified applicants.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 21, 2018 by 5:00 p.m.

***** Experience Working with Blind or Visually Impaired Persons is preferred but not required*****

Applications will be subject to review prior to scheduling interviews

DSS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER