



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Mobility Specialist for the Blind, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind Scott County June 27, 2018

The Family Support Division, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind is seeking applications for a Mobility Specialist for the Blind. This position is based in the Scott County/Sikeston Rehabilitation Services for the Blind Southeast District Office located at 106 Arthur St, STE E, Sikeston, Missouri 63801.

This is specialized and skilled work in providing adjustment services, orientation to surroundings and travel training to blind and visually impaired persons who receive services from the Rehabilitation Services for the Blind, Division of Family Services. An employee in this class has responsibility for training blind and visually impaired persons so they will achieve the confidence and skills necessary to travel independently from one location to another in a safe, efficient and socially acceptable manner. Supervision is received from a District Supervisor, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind or other designated administrative superior.

JOB DUTIES: The following are the responsibilities of this position but not limited to:

- Assess blind and visually impaired persons, including those with multiple disabilities, to determine their understanding of spatial and directional concepts and their physical and emotional capability to participate in a planned sequential course of training in orientation and mobility.
- Provide orientation of blind and visually impaired persons to the surroundings in which they live and/or work.
- Communicate to clients and other significant persons information regarding the physical, psychological, social, educational, economic and employment implications of blindness.
- Teach blind and visually impaired persons the correct techniques for accessing various modes of public transportation (taxis, busses, trains, airplanes, etc.).
- Prepare and teach the use of tactile, Braille and auditory maps.
- Teach blind and visually impaired persons the effects of various weather conditions on the environment and how to travel in those conditions (i.e., the effect of wind, rain, or snow on traffic sounds; ice or sleet on sidewalks).
- Assist clients in obtaining alternatives to cane travel (i.e., guide dogs, electronic aids and optical aids).
- Train the client in the use of remaining vision, whenever applicable.
- Teach cane techniques such as arc, rhythm step, shore lining, touch and slide, diagonal, methods of locating stationary landmarks or other points of reference; how to judge traffic and intersection patterns in both residential and business areas and how to negotiate curbs and uneven terrains.
- Observe the posture, gait, body movements and other gross motor techniques of blind and visually impaired persons, assesses the specific implications for travel and teaches

correct posture, gait, body movements and other gross motor techniques necessary for learning and using travel skills.

- Determine the appropriate type and length of cane for each client (when necessary cuts cane to desired length) and teaches client to determine when cane tips need to be changed and how to change them. Interprets state statutes related to services and legal rights of blind and visually impaired persons to clients, other consumers and the general public.

Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with specialization in orientation and mobility, teaching the blind and visually impaired, rehabilitation teaching, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy or closely related areas. (Specialization in other fields of study must be accompanied by a minimum of two years supervised experience in teaching blind and/or visually impaired persons).

SALARY RANGE: Annual salary range \$36,924.00- \$52,116.00

HOW TO APPLY Individuals who meet the required qualifications as specified above and are interested in this position can complete the **required OA paper application** at <https://oa.mo.gov/personnel/job-applicants/missouri-merit-system/paper-application-merit-system-employment> **to be placed on the register** or must update the on-line application at www.ease.mo.gov, then print and fax or email that application along with any applicable transcript(s) to Jonni Clark at (573) 751-4723 or Jonni.Clark@dss.mo.gov. Even if you are already on the register and/or have applied on-line, a printed application and any applicable transcript(s) must be sent to Jonni Clark. When emailing your application to Ms. Clark; please specify which position and county you are applying for.

Questions regarding this position may be directed to Mr. Travis Smith at (573)472-5240.

RECRUITMENT AREA: Accepting application from all qualified applicants

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 18th, 2018 by 5:00 p.m.

Applications will be subject to review prior to scheduling interviews.

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