

WHO WORKS WITH STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS?



Teachers of students with visual impairments (TVIs) and certified orientation and mobility specialists (COMS) provide instruction to meet students' unique educational needs as the result of a visual impairment. TVIs and COMS work together as part of the educational team and serve students ranging in age from birth through 21 years old.

What is the unique expertise of each professional?



Teacher Certified in Visual Impairments	Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Specialist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaches specialized skills such as braille literacy, use of optical devices, tactile maps and many others. • Teaches skills necessary to access the general curriculum. • Collaborates with educators and families on instructional programming. • Performs specialized evaluations. • Consults with school personnel on assessment/evaluations, including high-stakes testing accommodations. • Provides services within educational and/or home settings as required by IDEA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaches body and spatial awareness and directional/positional concepts. • Provides skills related to efficient and purposeful movement in a variety of environments. • Provides instruction in the use of canes and adaptive devices. • Performs specialized O&M evaluations. • Consults with educators, diagnosticians and others on issues related to orientation and mobility. • Provides services within the home, school and community settings as required by IDEA.

General Information:
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