

# Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI):

Teaching Skills for Independence to Learners with Visual Impairments



## What might I do as an TVI?

- Teach an 11th grader how to interpret a tactile map for his U.S. history class
- Instruct a student who is blind to read and write braille, a life-long literacy skill
- Investigate possible career paths with a high school freshman who has low vision
- Teach a student with multiple disabilities how to use apps on a tablet to reinforce language skills
- Brainstorm ideas for sports accommodations with a fifth grader who has low vision and wants to play basketball with his best friend
- Teach a middle school student with low vision to use a magnifier to read a graphic novel
- Assist a toddler who is blind to listen for and find a beeping ball
- Show a student with low vision how to download the latest version of a bestseller on a tablet where she can adjust the size and contrast of the print
- Motivate an infant who is totally blind to engage in touching the parts of a musical toy
- Teach a seven-year-old student who is blind to independently make a banana smoothie
- Work on social skills with a student who has low vision by role playing ways to initiate a conversation with a peer
- Teach students about their visual impairments and how to advocate for their needs and accommodations
- Collaborate with classroom teachers and other professionals to be sure students with visual impairments have access to all aspects of the curriculum
- Communicate and work closely with parents of children with visual impairments so that they can become key players on their child's educational team



TSBVI

## Why would I like this job?

- Enjoy work that is different, interesting, and challenging every day
- Work one-on-one with children ages birth through 21 years
- Teach children with varying abilities who are blind or have low vision
- Make a real difference in students' lives by increasing their skills and independence
- Build close working relationships with students and their parents
- Learn from and collaborate with other professionals to maximize student success

**Fun and creative  
use of my  
energies**



Association for Education and Rehabilitation  
of the Blind and Visually Impaired

## How do I become a TVI?

- Obtain a Bachelor's or Master's in Education with concentration in Visual Impairment or Blindness and teaching certification
- Add an endorsement in Visual Impairment to your existing teaching certificate
- Access university distance learning or on-campus programs

**Learn braille – it's not as difficult as you think!**

**Grants and/or stipends for tuition often available**

## Where would I work as a TVI?

- Multiple classrooms as an itinerant (traveling) teacher
- Public school resource room
- Residential school classroom
- Homes of families with infants/children with visual impairments

**100% job placement**

**Positions available worldwide**

## Potential employment opportunities include:

- Individual public school districts or multi-district cooperatives
- Residential schools for the blind
- Private schools
- Government agencies
- Private contracting
- Universities

## For more information:



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## For certification requirements:

Check your local department of education for details and requirements for certification