

PROGRAM FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED



WHO WE ARE

Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs), Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Specialists, and Brailist/Compensatory Skills Assistants work together to support students and school districts across our region.

We proudly serve a five-county area: Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Klamath, and Lake Counties.


- *Partnering with 29 school districts*
- *Providing Vision Services to 130+ students*
- *Delivering Orientation & Mobility instruction to 35+ students*

TVIs

TVIs assess students, write IEP goals, provide specially designed instruction, and collaborate closely with Brailleists, teachers, and school staff to ensure each student receives the support they need to thrive.

We are fortunate to have 11 dedicated TVIs serving from four regional offices located in Medford, Klamath Falls, Grants Pass, and Winston.

O&Ms



O&M Specialists teach students essential skills for independent travel and spatial understanding. Lessons include cane use, identifying landmarks and environmental clues, safely crossing streets, using public transportation, developing spatial awareness, and understanding cardinal directions.

We have three O&M Specialists serving our five-county region, and each of them is also a Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI).



BRAILLISTS

Braillist support our students by producing high-quality adapted materials including braille, tactile graphics, enlargement and other accessible formats while also providing related services to support IEP goal progress.

We have 6 braillists located in 3 of our regional offices who provide services and adapt materials across the 5 county region.

EXPANDED CORE CURRICULUM

The Expanded Core Curriculum includes nine key learning areas that help students who are blind or have low vision develop the skills they may not learn incidentally. These areas promote access, independence, and confidence in everyday life.

9 Key Learning Areas

- Compensatory
- Orientation and Mobility
- Social Interaction
- Independent Living Skills
- Recreation and Leisure
- Career Education
- Assistive Technology
- Sensory Efficiency
- Self-Determination

COLLABORATION

Collaboration among TVIs, caregivers, and specialists is key to creating learning environments that promote independence and equity. By working together to understand each student's unique needs, we ensure they have the resources and support necessary to thrive.

COLLABORATION IN ACTION

On any given day, our staff may:

- Work with classroom teachers to adapt materials or support assistive technology.
- Partner with school psychologists to modify assessments or provide tactile manipulatives.
- Plan with Teachers of the Deaf to establish supports for DeafBlind students.
- Share strategies with families that support skill development and independence at home.



OR PROJECT

- Designed for children who are blind or have low vision from birth to age six.
- Originally created in 1978 by Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs) at Southern Oregon ESD (formerly Jackson County ESD).
- Now in its 7th edition, the assessment and curriculum continue to evolve with contributions from current and former SOESD TVIs.
- This tool is used by professionals and families around the world.

THANK YOU



Questions?