

Qualifications

1. To qualify, students must meet this criteria:
 - ◆ A visual impairment, which even with correction, interferes with development or which adversely affects educational performance with one or more of the following:
 - Visual acuity for near or far point vision of 20/70 or less in the better eye after routine refractive correction.
 - A peripheral field of vision restricted to not more than 20 degrees.
 - A diagnosed progressively deteriorating eye condition.
 - ◆ Determination is based upon a comprehensive evaluation by an evaluation team, which includes the student's ophthalmologist or optometrist.
2. For students with visual impairment who have a visual acuity of 20/200 or less after routine refractive correction, or who have a peripheral field of vision restricted to not more than 20 degrees, an evaluation by an orientation and mobility specialist shall be conducted.



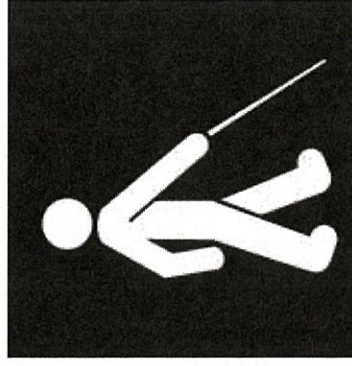
**Van Buren
Intermediate School District**
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Lawrence, MI 49064
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It is the policy of the Van Buren Intermediate School District that no discriminatory practices based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, disability, genetic information or any other status covered by federal, state, or local law be allowed during any program, activity, service, or in employment. Inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies should be directed to Barbara Matthews, Director of Finance & Operations or Dave Manson, Director of Special Education, 490 S. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064, 269-674-8091.

Es la política del Distrito Escolar Intermedio de Van Buren que ninguna práctica discriminatoria sea permitida basada en la raza, color, religion, origen nacional, sexo, edad, estatura, estado civil, discapacidad, informacion genética o cualquier otra condicion cubierta por la ley federal, estatal o local durante cualquier programa, actividad, servicio o en el empleo. Las preguntas sobre las políticas de no discriminación deben ser dirigidas al Directora de Finanzas y Operaciones, Barbara Matthews o al Director de Educación Especial, Dave Manson, 490 S. Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, MI 49064, 269-674-8091.



Educational Resource Guide to Orientation and Mobility Services



**Providing Educational Services
for a Better Tomorrow**

Services From An Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Definition and Purpose

Orientation

- ◆ is knowing your position in relation to other things in your environment (doors, rooms, hallways to buildings, streets, towns, etc.), and maintaining that knowledge as your position changes.

Mobility

- ◆ is the ability to physically move from one place to another safely, efficiently, and independently.

Purpose

- ◆ is to teach travel skills specifically for students who are blind or visually impaired, so that the highest possible level of independent travel can be attained.
- ◆ is to intentionally and systematically teach concepts typically learned incidentally through use of one's vision.

Job Description

- ◆ We have a "home" office, but drive between schools throughout the day to provide services.
- ◆ We provide services to qualifying students with visual impairments ages birth through 26 throughout Van Buren County.
- ◆ We evaluate and assess the student's abilities to travel in various environments.
- ◆ We develop appropriate goals and objectives based upon student needs.
- ◆ We provide direct services to students with visual impairments addressing individualized goals and objectives.
- ◆ We consult with staff and families on how to reinforce the use of O&M skills.

The Places We Go

- Childcare centers
- School buildings
- Residential neighborhoods
- Traffic-controlled intersections
- Transit centers
- Grocery stores, restaurants, banks, libraries, museums, and many more.

Examples of Skills Taught

- ◆ Use of distance aids



- ◆ Use of compass directions and GPS devices



- ◆ Mapping



- ◆ Street crossing techniques



- ◆ Transit travel

