



College of Education
Orientation and Mobility Certification Program
Application Information

Thank you for your interest in the Missouri State University Certification Program in Orientation and Mobility. Below you will find information on the steps that will need to be followed to complete the application process. If at any point you have questions, please don't hesitate to email Ian Shadrick at ianshadrick@missouristate.edu.

STEP 1: Complete the application process for admission to Missouri State University. Information on this can be found at <http://www.missouristate.edu/certification/51956.htm>. Please submit a letter of intent indicating your plan to pursue VI certification, Orientation and Mobility Certification or a Dual Certification. In addition, include three letters of reference and official transcripts. Please review the information below containing specific requirements for the Orientation and Mobility program. DEADLINE for Orientation and Mobility is: September 20, 2011. NOTE: All O&M applicants must meet graduate admission standards as well as any VI applicant who plans to pursue a Master's degree.

STEP 2: Upon successful completion of STEP 1, each applicant will participate in a phone interview. Interview will include discussions and questions related to program requirements outlined in STEP 1 and typical interview questions for acceptance into University graduate programs.

STEP 3: Applicants who are recommended to the team based on the phone interview will be scheduled for an in-person interview. Eligible candidates will be sent a list of additional questions to prepare for the interview.

STEP 4: Successful candidates will be notified in writing of acceptance into the Orientation and Mobility Certification program at Missouri State University. A letter of commitment will then be required for each candidate accepting admission.

Cost/Fees:

1. On-line courses - \$275.00 per credit hour (non-resident fee does not apply)
2. Traditional courses - \$227.00 per credit hour
3. Non-Missouri Resident courses - \$454.00 per credit hour
4. Student Services fees assessed for SPE 712 Blindfold course - \$271.00

***Disclaimer: The rates listed are for current tuition and fees, and may change in future semesters.**

Housing:

1. There will be a cost for out of town students who wish to live on Missouri State Campus during the SPE 712 Blindfold course held during the summer.
2. Approximate cost for this is \$800.00 for 8 weeks and this is shared room with no meal plan. More information on housing can be obtained at reslife@missouristate.edu/summerrates

Courses offered: (Individualized course sequence provided to students based on transcript analysis.)
Summer: SPE 606 and SPE 607; SPE 712

Fall: SPE 608, SPE 605; SPE 789; SPE 714
Spring: SPE 709; SPE 711; SPE 671; SPE 789

Additional Information Related to the Orientation and Mobility Program

We appreciate your interest in the Orientation and Mobility Program offered at Missouri State University. This document is to provide you with important information, expectations and requirements to consider prior to pursuing certification as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist.

1. Each participant will be required to apply to the graduate school and complete the graduate certification in Orientation and Mobility. Based on the transcript analysis from the teacher certification office, each student will be provided a plan of study. The plan of study will provide you a list of the coursework in Visual Impairments and Orientation and Mobility necessary for completion of your program. Additional coursework may be required to meet deficits identified in the transcript analysis.
2. Each student will be expected to complete a summer intensive course in techniques of Orientation and Mobility. The course is eight weeks in length and held on the Missouri State University campus and a total of 160 hours under the blindfold with instruction will be completed. Out of town students may stay in the residence life facilities on campus. Full participation in this course is expected.
3. Each student will be required to complete a 350 hour internship in Orientation and Mobility as the last course in the program. This includes teaching students who are blind or visually impaired in K-12 local education agencies as well as working with adults, and young children ages 2-5. This internship can be completed within your local education agency, rehabilitation agency or other program serving individuals who are blind or visually impaired. If the internship cannot be completed within a timely manner, the participant will be expected to complete an internship in a summer intensive program.
4. Prior to the start of the internship, students must complete a background check, TB test, and obtain liability insurance.
5. The student must be supervised during the internship by a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist with a minimum of 5 years of teaching experience. The student and the faculty members in the Orientation and Mobility program will collaborate to secure an appropriate Cooperating Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist.
6. Upon completion of the program, each student will be expected to pursue certification in Orientation and Mobility. To view the requirements go to: www.acvrep.org. The costs at this time for certification includes:
 - a. Eligibility Application Fee: \$105.00
 - b. Certification Examination Fee: \$250.00 [up to two administrations of the exam]
 - c. Certification Fee (5-year term): \$100.00
7. Students may be asked to participate in a trip to a guide dog school. Dates of attendance and location will be provided to students accepted in the O&M program.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Ian Shadrick at ianshadrick@missouristate.edu

Potential Funding Opportunities Exist

Funding from a grant the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) exists for students interested in pursuing certification in orientation and mobility. The application deadline to apply for grant funding is September 20th, 2011.

1. Priority is given to students interested in pursuing dual certification in orientation & mobility and teaching students with visual impairments.
2. Priority is also given to students who are Missouri residents deemed to be in a geographic area of high need for certified professionals.
3. Students selected as potential candidates for the program will be invited for an on campus interview to be held the week of October 15, 2011.
4. Decisions are expected to be made by October 31, 2011.