

**Proposed changes to the Missouri
State Regulations Implementing Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

Regulation VIII – Personnel Standards

NOTE: This chart only shows substantive changes being proposed to the Part B State Regulations implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Other changes of a non-substantive nature, such as terminology or wording changes, spelling/punctuation/grammar corrections, etc. are not shown here. For a complete picture of all changes being proposed, the reader is directed to the regulatory document itself.

Regulation	Page	Proposed Regulation	Comments	Response
VIII	98	<p>USE OF PARAPROFESSIONALS</p> <p>Missouri allows paraprofessionals who are appropriately trained and supervised to be used to assist in the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities. Supervision is provided by a properly certificated teacher appropriate for the setting. The paraprofessional must be in line of sight of the supervising teacher. Public agencies must provide each paraprofessional with the orientation and initial training necessary for the individual to perform the duties associated with the work assignment prior to working with the student. At a minimum, such training shall include information and experiences related to:</p> <p>(1) The type of disabilities displayed by the students with whom they will work;</p> <p>(2) Basic principles of behavior modification;</p> <p>(3) Basic instructional techniques expected to be used (demonstration, modeling, cueing, reinforcement, correction, etc.); and,</p> <p>(4) Other areas as necessary (positioning, lifting and transferring techniques, feeding procedures, etc.).</p> <p>Paraprofessionals who do not hold a teaching certificate shall receive a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of training within six (6) months of hire during their initial year of employment and a minimum of ten (10) hours of training yearly in subsequent school years.</p>	<p>Multiple comments stated concerns (55) for “line of sight”.</p> <p>Suggested change in wording: Missouri allows paraprofessionals who are appropriately trained and supervised to be used to assist in the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities. Supervision of a paraprofessional is provided by a properly certified teacher appropriate for the setting.</p>	<p>Proceed with proposed change, except remove “The paraprofessional must be in line of sight” of the supervising teacher”.</p> <p>Missouri allows paraprofessionals who are appropriately trained and supervised to be used to assist in the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities. Supervision is provided by a properly certificated teacher appropriate for the setting. The paraprofessional must be in line of sight of the supervising teacher. Public agencies must provide each paraprofessional with the orientation and initial training necessary for the individual to perform the duties associated with the work assignment prior to working with the student. At a minimum, such training shall include information and experiences related to:</p> <p>(1) The type of disabilities displayed by the students with whom they will work;</p> <p>(2) Basic principles of behavior modification;</p> <p>(3) Basic instructional techniques expected to be used (demonstration, modeling, cueing, reinforcement, correction, etc.); and,</p>

						<p>(4) Other areas as necessary (positioning, lifting and transferring techniques, feeding procedures, etc.).</p> <p>Paraprofessionals who do not hold a teaching certificate shall receive a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of training within six (6) months of hire during their initial year of employment and a minimum of ten (10) hours of training yearly in subsequent school years.</p>
VIII	101	Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Specialist	Provides orientation and mobility services to eligible students with visual impairments.	Bachelor's Degree with specialization in orientation and mobility, teaching the blind and visually impaired, rehabilitation teaching, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy or closely related area	Certified by the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS) or Current O&M services contract with Rehabilitation Services for the Blind based on acceptable combination of education, training, and experience to provide services.	<p>Eight (8) comments were received regarding concerns about lack of certification. Suggested wording was provided as follows: Rehabilitation Services for the Blind requires COMS who have a services contract with the RSB to have certification from a national organization.</p> <p>Proceed with suggested change. Rehabilitation Services for the Blind requires COMS who have a services contract with the RSB to have certification from a national organization.</p> <p>Certified by the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS) or Rehabilitation Services for the Blind requires COMS who have a services contract with the RSB to have certification from a national organization</p> <p>Current O&M services contract with Rehabilitation Services for the Blind based on acceptable combination of education, training, and experience to provide services.</p>