**Proposed changes to the Missouri**

**State Regulations Implementing Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Effective July 30, 2023**

**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 | 103 | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | Responsibilities | Educational Qualifications | Certificates or License | | 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 or closely related area | Certified by the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) as a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS)**, the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) with a National Orientation and Mobility Certification (NOMC), or hold a nationally recognized certification related to orientation and mobility** ~~or Current O&M services contract with Rehabilitation Services for the Blind~~ | |  |  |  |  | | No comments received. | Proceed with change. Rationale: Add names of additional nationally recognized certification agencies to meet the requirements of the BRITE Act, 167.225 Sections 9(4) and 10(3) RSMo.  Remove wording that does not comply with BRITE Act requirements. |
| VIII | 107 | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | Responsibilities | Educational Qualifications | Certificates or License | | **Teacher**   * **Accessible Assistive Technology** | **Provide instruction in accessible assistive technology, consultation, and training with teachers, and conduct assistive technology assessment** | **Bachelor’s Degree** | **Certification in blind and partially sighted issued by the State Board of Education, hold a valid and current Certified Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist for People with Visual Impairments (CATIS), or hold a valid and current National Certification in Access Technology for the Blind (NCATB) or other nationally recognized certification related to assistive technology instruction for individuals with visual impairments** | |  |  |  |  | | No comments received. | Proceed with change. Rationale: Add title, responsibilities, educational qualifications and certificates or license requirements to meet the requirements of the BRITE Act, 167.225 Section 10(2) RSMo. |
| VIII | 107 | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | Responsibilities | Educational Qualifications | Certificates or License | | Teacher   * Early childhood blended **funding program** | Direct instruction, consultation with teachers, develop IEPs, writing evaluation reports, travel training, individualized assessments | Bachelor’s Degree | Certification in early childhood or early childhood special education issued by the State Board of Education | |  |  |  |  | | No comments received. | Proceed with change. Rationale: There is a fundamental misunderstanding of the early learning blended program which uses blended funding to operate. Funding sources may or may not include ECSE funding. Blended funding programs have no clear special education instruction requirements. Adding *funding program* to the title aligns to the program name used by Office of Childhood and stands in contrast to the integrated ECSE classroom model listed in State Plan Regulation IX, class size and caseload requirements. The integrated ECSE model operates using special education funding and has very clear guidance on the makeup of the classroom and requires special education instruction provided by a teacher holding Early Childhood Special Education certification. |
| VIII | 107 | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | Responsibilities | Educational Qualifications | Certificates or License | | Teacher   * Visually Impaired | Specialized instruction in Braille or other related instruction | Bachelor’s Degree | Certification in blind and partially sighted issued by the State Board of Education**, hold a current and valid National Certification in Unified English Braille (NCUEB) working under the supervision of a reading specialist, or hold a nationally recognized certification related to Braille instruction** | |  |  |  |  | | No comments received. | Proceed with change. Rationale: Add names of additional nationally recognized certification agencies to meet the requirements of the BRITE Act, 167.225 Section 10(1) RSMo. |