



**Preliminary Education Specialist Teaching  
Credential Program Standards  
and Teaching Performance Expectations**

**Commission on Teacher Credentialing**

**Standards Adopted August 2018**

*Handbook Developed August 2018*

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## Education Specialist Program Standards (2018)

### Standard 1: Program Design and Curriculum

Each program of professional preparation is implemented effectively in accordance with a cohesive design and sound evidence-based practices relevant to the contemporary conditions of schools. The design must reflect the full range of service delivery options, including general education as well as the knowledge and skills to meet the needs of students in the specific areas authorized by the credential. Programs ensure that candidates are well versed in delivering services in a wide variety of specialized academic instructional settings, including, but not limited to: the home, educational settings in hospitals/rehabilitation facilities and treatment centers, and classrooms, as well as provide itinerant instructional delivery and/or consultation in public/nonpublic school programs. The program's organizational structure supports a logical and integrated progression for candidates for the instructional components including coursework and field work provided within the program. The program's design and plan allow candidates multiple points of entry.

The preparation provided to candidates is designed to address the range of candidate performance expectations. Coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences provide candidates with opportunities to learn and practice competencies relating to the care and education of students with disabilities. Candidate preparation is grounded in the theoretical framework of developmentally, linguistically and culturally-appropriate and bias-free practices for the care and education of students with disabilities as well as for collaborating effectively with families to support their student's development and learning. These theoretical foundations are reflected in the organization, scope and sequence of the curriculum provided to candidates. The program prepares candidates to interface with other service providers (school, medical and agency based) which may include: hospital/clinic based personnel, the school nurse, occupational therapist, speech and language specialist, physical therapist, psychologist, orthopedist, paraprofessional/health care assistance, California Children's Services, Regional Center, Department of Mental Health, Department of Rehabilitation, and other appropriate service providers. The program provides opportunities for each candidate to demonstrate knowledge of disability characteristics for which the candidate is seeking authorization to teach, and the educational and psychosocial implications of these characteristics for students identified with educational support needs who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP). The program prepares candidates in case management practices and strategies for students with disabilities and for those referred for special education services.

Key elements within the curriculum include: typical and atypical child growth and development from birth through age 22; developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate pedagogy for students in key content areas in alignment with state-adopted content standards and frameworks; understanding the learning trajectories of young children to young adults; designing

and implementing developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate curriculum and assessments; instruction in strategies to develop early literacy skills; understanding and analyzing student achievement outcomes to improve learning; understanding of the range of factors affecting student learning such as the effects of poverty, race, and socioeconomic status; and knowledge of the range of positive behavioral practices and supports for young children and young adults. The program's curriculum also includes coursework and clinical practice opportunities for candidates to be able to identify the unique characteristics of students with autism spectrum disorders and the core challenges associated with language and communication, social skills, behavior, and processing and their implications for program planning and service delivery. The program's design also includes a coherent candidate assessment system to provide formative information to candidates regarding their progress towards the intended level of certification. (See also Standard 2).

## **Standard 2: Preparing Candidates to Master the *Teaching Performance Expectations* (TPEs)**

The *Teaching Performance Expectations* for credential candidates describe the set of professional knowledge, skills and abilities expected of a beginning level practitioner in order to effectively support the growth, development, and learning of all students and to work collaboratively with families to support all students in meeting the state-adopted academic content standards.

The coursework and fieldwork/clinical experiences provide multiple opportunities for candidates to learn, apply, and reflect on each teaching performance expectation. As candidates progress through their preparation scope and sequence, pedagogical assignments are increasingly complex and challenging. The scope of the pedagogical assignments (a) addresses all of the TPEs as they apply to the subjects to be authorized by the credential, and (b) prepares the candidate for course-related and other assessments of their competence with respect to both the General Education TPEs and the Education Specialist TPEs. As candidates progress through the curriculum, faculty and other qualified supervisors assess candidates' performance in relation to the TPEs and provide formative and timely performance feedback regarding candidates' progress toward mastering the TPEs.

## **Standard 3: Clinical Practice**

### **A. Organization of Clinical Practice Experiences**

The program ensures that candidates have planned experiences and/or interactions that reflect the full diversity of grades/ages, federal disability categories and the continuum of special education services outlined in the specific credential authorization. The experiences are planned from the beginning of the program to include experiences in general education, experiences with parents and families, and experiences with a broad range of service delivery options leading to an extended culminating placement in which the candidate works toward assuming full responsibility for the provision of services in the specific credential authorization. Experiences are of sufficient duration for the

candidate to demonstrate the teaching performance expectations for Education Specialist teachers. The culminating placement may be in any school, agency or program as defined in Education Code Sections 56031, 56360, and 56361 for the purpose of providing special education services. Fieldwork/Clinical experiences are designed to provide candidates with a developmental set of activities integrated with coursework that extend the candidate's learning through application of theory to practice with students in California's education settings.

Fieldwork provides opportunities for candidates to observe a variety of classrooms and settings and to select focus students for deeper observational study, including students who are dual language learners and who may (a) exhibit typical behavior; (b) exhibit atypical behavior; and (c) have other types of special learning needs. Fieldwork also provides opportunities for candidates to observe teachers using productive routines and effective transitions for students' academic and socio-emotional growth and development. Candidates are provided with opportunities to review the curriculum and to further develop pedagogical knowledge of high leverage practices in subject matter areas, including early language and literacy for first and second language learners, mathematics, science, technology, engineering, social studies, and arts as appropriate. Candidates are able to observe the administration of a range of assessments. Candidates are also able to observe how personnel organize and supervise the work of other adults in inclusive and specialized education settings.

Clinical practice is a developmental and sequential set of activities integrated with theoretical and pedagogical coursework, and must consist of a minimum of 600 hours of clinical practice across the arc of the program. At least 200 hours of supervised early field work that includes guided observations and initial student teaching (e.g., co-planning and co-teaching, or guided teaching) must be provided to candidates in general education and special education settings prior to final student teaching. Final student teaching shall consist of (400 hours) in the desired credential area. For interns, early field experience would take place in experienced mentor classrooms in both general education and special education settings. Candidates must have a range of experience that reflects the diversity of age and grade levels, the range of federal disability categories, and the continuum of special education services. Candidates should have experiences with a range of diverse students and families reflective of the demographics of California.

Dual credential programs leading to both a general and a special education credential are required to have substantive experiences in general education, inclusive, and special education settings within the 600 hours, and are encouraged to extend clinical practice for an additional 150 hours.

Candidates who are working in private schools and seeking a credential are required to complete a substantive clinical experience of at least 150 hours in a diverse school setting where the curriculum aligns with California’s adopted content standards and frameworks and the school reflects the diversity of California’s student population.

The program provides initial orientation for preparation program supervisors and district-employed supervisors of clinical practice experiences to ensure all supervisors understand their role and expectations. The minimal amount of program supervision involving formal evaluation of each candidate must be 4 times per quarter or 6 times per semester. The minimum amount of district-employed supervisors’ support and guidance must be 5 hours per week.

Clinical supervision may include an in-person site visit, video capture or synchronous video observation, but it must be archived either by annotated video or scripted observations and evaluated based on the TPEs, that produce data that can be aggregated and disaggregated.

**B. Preparation of Faculty and/or Site Supervisors and/or Program Directors**

The program selects individuals who are credentialed or who have equivalent experience in educator preparation. Supervisors should be experts in the education specialist instructional area of the candidate being supervised and should have recent professional experience in school settings where the curriculum aligns with California’s adopted content standards and frameworks and the school reflects the diversity of California’s student population. The program provides supervisors with an orientation to the program’s expectations and ensures that supervisors are knowledgeable about the program curriculum and assessments, including the TPEs and TPA model chosen by the program. In addition, program supervisors maintain current knowledge of effective supervision approaches such as cognitive coaching, adult learning theory, and current content-specific pedagogy and instructional practices for teachers in whose classrooms or settings candidate experiences will take place to ensure that all supervisors of fieldwork/clinical practice experiences and all cooperating education specialist teachers understand their roles and expectations.

**C. Criteria for School Placements**

Sites selected for candidate experiences should demonstrate commitment to developmentally and culturally appropriate practices as well as to collaborative relationships with families. In addition, these sites should also demonstrate placement of students with disabilities in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), provide support for dual language learners with disabilities, and offer the opportunity for candidates to interact with different age groups in both general and special education settings reflecting the continuum of placement options. They should also reflect to the extent possible socioeconomic, linguistic and cultural diversity, and permit video capture for candidate

reflection. Sites selected should have a fully qualified master/mentor teacher with an appropriate credential and a fully qualified site administrator.

**D. Criteria for the Selection of District Employed Supervisors** (also may be known as the cooperating teacher, master teacher or on-site mentor)

The program should select district supervisors who hold a Clear Education Specialist Credential for which they are providing supervision and having a minimum of three years of birth through age 22 teaching experience. The district-employed supervisor must have demonstrated exemplary teaching practices as determined by the employer and the preparation program. The matching of candidate and district-employed supervisor must be a collaborative process between the school district and the program.

**Standard 4: Monitoring, Supporting, and Assessing Candidate Progress towards Meeting the Education Specialist Credential Requirements**

Program faculty, program supervisors, and district-employed supervisors monitor and support candidates during their progress towards meeting and mastering the TPEs. Evidence regarding candidate progress and performance is used to guide advisement and assistance efforts. The program provides support and assistance to candidates and only retains candidates who are suited for advancement into teaching. Appropriate information is accessible to guide candidates' meeting all program requirements.

**Standard 5: Assessment of Candidate Competency**

Prior to recommending each candidate for an Education Specialist teaching credential, one or more persons responsible for the program must determine on the basis of thoroughly documented evidence that each candidate has demonstrated a satisfactory performance on the full range of General Education and Education Specialist *Teaching Performance Expectations* (TPEs) as these apply to the subjects and specialties authorized by the credential. During the program, candidates are guided and coached on their performance in relation to the TPEs using formative evaluation processes. Verification of candidate performance on the TPEs is provided through candidate passing of the Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) model selected by the preparation program.

**Upon Commission adoption of an Education Specialist TPA the following Standard 5 language will replace the above. At this time the shaded language is not applicable to programs:**

**Standard 5: Implementation of a Teaching Performance Assessment**

The TPA is implemented according to the requirements of the Commission-approved model selected by the program. One or more individuals responsible for implementing the TPA document the administration processes for all tasks/activities of the applicable TPA model in

accordance with the requirements of the selected model. The program consults as needed with the model sponsor where issues of consistency in implementing the model as designed arise. The program requires program faculty (including full time, adjunct, and other individuals providing instructional and/or supervisory services to candidates within the program) to become knowledgeable about the TPA tasks, rubrics, and scoring, as well as how the TPA is implemented within the program so that they can appropriately prepare candidates for the assessment and also use TPA data for program improvement purposes.

#### **5A: Administration of the Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA)**

(1) The program identifies one or more individuals responsible for implementing the chosen TPA model and documents the administration processes for all tasks/activities of the applicable TPA model in accordance with the model's implementation requirements.

(2) For purposes of implementing the video requirement, the program places candidates only in student teaching or intern placements where the candidate is able to record his/her teaching with K-12 students. The program assures that each school or district where the candidate is placed has a recording policy in place. The program requires candidates to affirm that the candidate has followed all applicable video policies for the TPA task requiring a video, and maintains records of this affirmation for a full accreditation cycle.

(3) If the program participates in the local scoring option provided by the model sponsor, the program coordinates with the model sponsor to identify the local assessors who would be used to score TPA responses from the program's candidates.

(4) The program maintains program level and candidate level TPA data, including but not limited to individual and aggregate results of candidate performance over time. The program documents the use of these data for Commission reporting, accreditation and program improvement purposes.

(5) The program assures that candidates understand the appropriate use of materials submitted as part of their TPA responses, the appropriate use of their individual performance data, and privacy considerations relating to the use of candidate data.

(6) A program using a local scoring process establishes and consistently uses appropriate measures to ensure the security of all TPA training materials, including all print, online, video, and assessor materials which may be in the program's possession.

(7) All programs have a clearly defined written appeal policy for candidates and inform candidates about the policy prior to the assessment.

(8) The program using a local scoring process provides and implements an appeal policy, with the



model sponsor, for candidates who do not pass the TPA.

### **5B: Candidate Preparation and Support**

The teacher preparation program assures that each candidate receives clear and accurate information about the nature of the pedagogical tasks within the Commission-approved teaching performance assessment model selected by the program and the passing score standard for the assessment. The program provides multiple formative opportunities for candidates to prepare for the TPA tasks/activities. The program assures that candidates understand that all responses to the TPA submitted for scoring represent the candidate's own work. For candidates who are not successful on the assessment, the program provides appropriate remediation support and guidance on resubmitting task components consistent with model sponsor guidelines.

(1) The program implements as indicated below the following support activities for candidates. These activities constitute **required** forms of support for candidates within the TPA process:

- Providing candidates with access to handbooks and other explanatory materials about the TPA and expectations for candidate performance on the assessment.
- Explaining TPA tasks and scoring rubrics.
- Engaging candidates in formative experiences aligned with a TPA (e.g., assignments analyzing their instruction, developing curriculum units, or assessing student work).
- Providing candidates who are not successful on the assessment with additional support focusing on understanding the task(s) and rubric(s) on which the candidate was not successful as well as on understanding what needs to be resubmitted for scoring and the process for resubmitting responses for scoring.

These activities constitute **acceptable, but not required** forms of support for candidates within the TPA process:

- Guiding discussions about the TPA tasks and scoring rubrics.
- Providing support documents such as advice on making good choices about what to use within the assessment responses.
- Using TPA scoring rubrics on assignments other than the candidate responses submitted for scoring.
- Asking probing questions about candidate draft TPA responses, without providing direct edits or specific suggestions about the candidate's work.
- Assisting candidates in understanding how to use the electronic platforms for models/programs using electronic uploading of candidate responses.
- Arranging technical assistance for the video portion of the assessment.

These activities constitute **unacceptable** forms of support for candidates within the TPA process:

- Editing a candidate's official materials prior to submission and/ or prior to resubmission (for candidates who are unsuccessful on the assessment).
- Providing specific critique of candidate responses that indicates alternative responses, prior to submission for official scoring and/or prior to resubmission (for candidates who are unsuccessful

on the assessment).

- Telling candidates which video clips to select for submission.
- Uploading candidate TPA responses (written responses or video entries) on public access websites, including social media.

(2) The program provides candidates with timely feedback on formative assessments and experiences preparatory to the TPA. The feedback includes information relative to candidate demonstration of competency on the domains of the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs).

(3) The program provides opportunities for candidates who are not successful on the assessment to receive remedial assistance, and to retake the assessment. The program only recommends candidates who have met the passing score on the TPA for a preliminary teaching credential and have met all credential requirements.

### **5C: Assessor Qualifications, Training, and Scoring Reliability**

The model sponsor selects potential assessors for the centralized scoring option. The program selects potential assessors for the local scoring option, and must follow selection criteria established by the model sponsor. The selection criteria for all assessors include but are not limited to pedagogical expertise in the content areas assessed within the TPA. The model sponsor is responsible for training, calibration and scoring reliability for all assessors in both local and centralized scoring options. All potential assessors must pass initial training and calibration prior to scoring and must remain calibrated throughout the scoring process.

### **Standard 6: Induction Individual Development Plan**

Before exiting the preliminary program, candidates, district-employed supervisors, and program supervisors collaborate on an individual development plan (IDP) consisting of recommendations for professional development and growth in the candidate's clear credential program. The plan is a portable document archived by the preliminary program and provided to the candidate for voluntary transmission to the clear/induction program.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### Education Specialist: Mild to Moderate Support Needs

#### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning Elements**

Mild to Moderate Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to collaboratively develop and implement Individualized Education Programs (IEP), including instructional goals that ensure access to the Common Core State Standards and California Preschool Learning Foundations, as appropriate, that lead to effective inclusion of students with disabilities in the general education core curriculum.
2. Demonstrate understanding of students with complex communication needs (e.g., students with limited verbal ability,) in order to foster access and build comprehension, and develop appropriate language development goals within the IEPs for those students.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of students' language development across disabilities and the life span, including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge and skills.
4. Monitor student progress toward learning goals as identified in the academic content standards and the IEP/Individual Transition plan (ITP).
5. Demonstrate the ability to develop IEPs/ITPs with students and their families, including goals for independent living, post-secondary education, and careers, with appropriate connections between the school curriculum and life beyond high school.
6. Facilitate and support students in assuming increasing responsibility for learning and self-advocacy based on individual needs, with appropriate transitions between academic levels in programs and developing skills related to career, college, independent living and community participation.
7. Use strategies to support positive psychosocial development and self-determined behavior of students with disabilities.

#### **TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning Elements**

Mild to Moderate Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Develop accommodations and modifications specific to students with disabilities to allow access to learning environments, including incorporating instructional and assistive technology, and alternative and augmentative procedures to optimize the learning opportunities and outcomes for all students, and to move them toward effective inclusion in general education settings.

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2. Demonstrate the ability to support the movement, mobility, sensory and specialized health care needs required for students to participate fully in classrooms, schools and the community. Organize a safe environment for all students that include barrier free space for independent mobility, adequate storage and operation of medical equipment (as appropriate) and other mobility and sensory accommodations.
3. Demonstrate the ability to address functional limitations of movement and/or sensation for students with orthopedic impairments who may have a co-existing health impairment and/or intellectual disability but have difficulty accessing their education due to physical limitations.
4. Collaborate with families and appropriate related services personnel to support access to, and optimal learning experiences for, students with mild to moderate support needs in a wide variety of general education and specialized academic instructional settings, included but not limited to the home, natural environments, educational settings in hospitals and treatment centers, and classroom or itinerant instructional delivery and/or consultation in public/nonpublic school programs.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the communicative intent of students' behavior as well as the ability to help students develop positive communication skills and systems to replace negative behavior.
6. Demonstrate the ability to identify if a student's behavior is a manifestation of his or her disability and to develop positive behavior intervention plans inclusive of the types of interventions and multi-tiered systems of supports that may be needed to address these behavior issues.
7. Understand and access in a collaborative manner with other agency professionals the variety of interventions, related services and additional supports, including site-based and community resources and agencies, to provide integrated support for students with behavior, social, emotional, trauma, and/or mental health needs.
8. Apply and collaboratively implement supports needed to establish and maintain student success in the least restrictive environment, according to students' unique needs.
9. Demonstrate the skills required to ensure that interventions and/or instructional environments are appropriate to the student's chronological age, developmental levels, and disability-specific needs, including community-based instructional environments.
10. Implement systems to assess, plan, and provide academic and social skills instruction to support positive behavior in all students, including students who present complex social communication, behavioral and emotional needs.
11. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and abilities to understand and address the needs of the peers and family members of students who have sustained a traumatic brain injury as they transition to school and present with a change in function.

### **TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning** Elements

Mild to Moderate Support Candidates will:

## Teaching Performance Expectations

1. Adapt, modify, accommodate and differentiate the instruction of students with identified disabilities in order to develop appropriate goals and accommodations and facilitate access to the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).
2. Demonstrate knowledge of disabilities and their effects on learning, skills development, social-emotional development, mental health, and behavior, and of how to access and use related services and additional supports to organize and support effective instruction.
3. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of atypical development associated with various disabilities and risk conditions (e.g. orthopedic impairment, autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy), as well as resilience and protective factors (e.g. attachment, temperament), and their implications for learning.

### **TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students**

#### Elements

Mild to Moderate Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to use assistive technology, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) including low- and high-tech equipment and materials to facilitate communication, curriculum access, and skills development of students with disabilities.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use evidenced-based high leverage practices with a range of student needs, and evaluate a variety of pedagogical approaches to instruction, including instructional sequences, unit and lesson plans, in order to provide students with disabilities equitable access to the content and experiences aligned with the state-adopted core curriculum.
3. Demonstrate the ability to identify and use behaviorally based teaching strategies with the understanding that behaviors are communicative and serve a function.
4. Demonstrate the ability to create short and long-term goals that are responsive to the unique needs of the student and meet the grade level requirements of the core curriculum, and which are systematically adjusted as needed to promote maximum learning and academic achievement within inclusive environments.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of core challenges associated with the neurology of open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments and adjust teaching strategies based upon the unique profile of students who present with physical/medical access issues or who retain a general fund of knowledge, but demonstrate difficulty acquiring and retaining new information due to poor memory processing, as well as neuro behavioral issues.
6. Coordinate, collaborate, co-teach and communicate effectively with other service providers, including paraprofessionals, general education teachers, parents, students, and community agencies for instructional planning and planning for successful student transitions.
7. Use person-centered/family centered planning processes, and strengths-based, functional/ecological assessments across classroom and non-classroom contexts that lead to students' meaningful participation in core, standards-based curriculum, life skills curriculum, and/or wellness curriculum, and that support progress toward IEP goals and objectives.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### **TPE 5: Assessing Student Learning**

#### Elements

Mild to Moderate Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Apply knowledge of the purposes, characteristics, and appropriate uses of different types of assessments used to determine special education eligibility, progress monitoring, and decision making regarding eligibility, placement in LRE, and services. Candidates also apply knowledge of when and how to use assessment sources that integrate alternative statewide assessments, formative assessments, and formal/informal assessment results as appropriate, based on students' needs.
2. Each candidate utilizes assessment data to: 1) identify effective intervention and support techniques, 2) develop needed augmentative and alternative systems, 3) implement instruction of communication and social skills, 4) create and facilitate opportunities for interaction; 5) develop communication methods to demonstrate student academic knowledge; and 6) address the unique learning, sensory and access needs of students with physical/orthopedic disabilities, other health impairments, and multiple disabilities.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of special education law, including the administration and documentation of assessments and how to hold IEP meetings according to the guidelines established by law.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of requirements for appropriate assessment and identification of students whose cultural, ethnic, gender, or linguistic differences may be misunderstood or misidentified as manifestations of a disability.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
6. Know how to appropriately administer assessments according to the established protocols for each assessment. Candidates also understand how to implement appropriate accommodations on assessments for students with disabilities that do not fundamentally alter the nature and/or content of what is being tested, and how to use AAC appropriately for facilitating the participation in the assessment of students with complex communications needs.

### **TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator**

#### Elements

Mild to Moderate Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate and collaborate effectively with paraprofessionals and other adults in the classroom.

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2. Identify and understand conflict resolution techniques that use communication, collaboration, and mediation approaches to address conflicts and disagreements that may arise during the facilitation of an IEP meeting or collaboration with other professionals.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of historical interactions and contemporary legal, medical, pedagogical, and philosophical models of social responsibility, treatment and education in the lives of individuals with disabilities.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of federal, state, and local policies related to specialized health care in educational settings.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the unique experiences of families of students who are chronically ill, are hospitalized and/or in transition from hospitalization, and/or who have degenerative conditions.
6. Possess the knowledge that the diminishment or loss of previous abilities (learning, social, physical) may have significant, long-term effects on the self-concept and emotional well-being of the student who acquires a traumatic brain injury as well as on their family members, requiring the provision of appropriate supports and services to address these issues.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### Education Specialist: Extensive Support Needs

#### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning Elements**

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Identify factors associated with successful planning and implementation of appropriate transition options, programs, and life experiences, and demonstrate advocacy skills related to the various transitions experienced by students with extensive support needs, as they move from kindergarten to post-secondary.
2. Demonstrate understanding of mandated considerations for augmentative and alternative communication technology for students with extensive support needs.
3. Identify the unique features of deafblindness and the impact of combined hearing and vision impairments on communications, learning, and accessing environments. This includes the unique learning profiles and individualized instruction appropriate for student who are deafblind.
4. Use strategies to support positive psychosocial development and self-determined behavior of students with extensive support needs.
5. In collaboration with families and appropriate related services personnel, use students' present levels of academic achievement and functional performance from a variety of sources to plan, develop, and adapt/adjust IEPs and ITPs that address the unique learning, sensory and access needs of students with extensive support needs.
6. Demonstrate the ability to collaboratively develop and implement Individualized Education Programs (IEP), including instructional goals that ensure access to the Common Core State Standards and California Preschool Learning Foundations, as appropriate, that lead to effective inclusion of students with disabilities in the general education core curriculum.
7. Demonstrate understanding of students with complex communication needs (e.g., students with limited verbal ability,) in order to foster access and build comprehension, and develop appropriate language development goals within the IEPs for those students.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of students' language development across disabilities and the life span, including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge and skills.
9. Monitor student progress toward learning goals as identified in the academic content standards and the IEP/Individual Transition plan (ITP).
10. Demonstrate the ability to develop IEPs/ITPs with students and their families, including goals for independent living, post-secondary education, and careers, with appropriate connections between the school curriculum and life beyond high school.
11. Facilitate and support students in assuming increasing responsibility for learning and self-advocacy based on individual needs, with appropriate transitions between academic levels in



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programs and developing skills related to career, college, independent living and community participation.

### **TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning** Elements

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Use appropriate and safe techniques, procedures, materials, educational technology, assistive technology, and other adaptive equipment for students with extensive support needs. Facilitate student health and mobility by practicing appropriate and safe techniques for lifting and positioning and instruct/supervise other personnel in such procedures.
2. Utilize information from collaboratively developed individualized health care plans to support a safe environment and implement specialized health care regulations and technological procedures required by students with extensive support needs who require medical services not requiring a physician.
3. Demonstrate the skills necessary to develop communication-rich environments that support communication and social engagement within the context of age-appropriate, functional and meaningful activities as related to students with extensive support needs including those who are deafblind.
4. Collaborate with families and appropriate related services personnel to support access to, and optimal learning experiences for, students with extensive support needs in a wide variety of general education and specialized instructional settings, included but not limited to the home, natural environments, educational settings in hospitals and treatment centers, and classroom or itinerant instructional delivery and/or consultation in public/nonpublic school programs.
5. Develop accommodations and modifications specific to students with disabilities to allow access to learning environments, including incorporating instructional and assistive technology, and alternative and augmentative procedures to optimize the learning opportunities and outcomes for all students, and to move them toward effective inclusion in general education settings.
6. Demonstrate the ability to support the movement, mobility, sensory and specialized health care needs required for students to participate fully in classrooms, schools and the community. Organize a safe environment for all students that include barrier free space for independent mobility, adequate storage and operation of medical equipment (as appropriate) and other mobility and sensory accommodations.
7. Demonstrate the ability to address functional limitations of movement and/or sensation for students with orthopedic impairments who may have a co-existing health impairment and/or intellectual disability but have difficulty accessing their education due to physical limitations.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the communicative intent of students' behavior as well as the ability to help students develop positive communication skills and systems to replace negative behavior.

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9. Demonstrate the ability to identify if a student's behavior is a manifestation of his or her disability and to develop positive behavior intervention plans inclusive of the types of interventions and multi-tiered systems of supports that may be needed to address these behavior issues.
10. Understand and access in a collaborative manner with other agency professionals the variety of interventions, related services and additional supports, including site-based and community resources and agencies, to provide integrated support for students with behavior, social, emotional, trauma, and/or mental health needs.
11. Apply and collaboratively implement supports needed to establish and maintain student success in the least restrictive environment, according to students' unique needs.
12. Demonstrate the skills required to ensure that interventions and/or instructional environments are appropriate to the student's chronological age, developmental levels, and disability-specific needs, including community-based instructional environments.
13. Implement systems to assess, plan, and provide academic and social skills instruction to support positive behavior in all students, including students who present complex social communication, behavioral and emotional needs.
14. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills and abilities to understand and address the needs of the peers and family members of students who have sustained a traumatic brain injury as they transition to school and present with a change in function.

### **TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning** Elements

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate a depth of knowledge and skills, including the use of assistive technology, in the teaching of strategies for early literacy skills, reading, writing, math, and science, that ultimately enable students with extensive support needs to access the academic core curriculum.
2. Identify and utilize curricula and evidence-based instructional strategies that meet the diverse learning characteristics of students with extensive support needs across an array of environments and activities.
3. Adapt, modify, accommodate and differentiate the instruction of students with identified disabilities in order to develop appropriate goals and accommodations and facilitate access to the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).
4. Demonstrate knowledge of disabilities and their effects on learning, skills development, social-emotional development, mental health, and behavior, and of how to access and use related services and additional supports to organize and support effective instruction.
5. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of atypical development associated with various disabilities and risk conditions (e.g. orthopedic impairment, autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy), as well as resilience and protective factors (e.g. attachment, temperament), and their implications for learning.

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### **TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students** Elements

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Identify and utilize behaviorally based teaching strategies in the design and implementation of instruction to effectively serve students with extensive support needs with the understanding that behaviors are communicative and serve a function.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the structure and function of the auditory and visual sensory systems and skills to interpret and contribute to functional hearing and vision assessment findings to guide program development.
3. Demonstrate the ability to use assistive technology, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) including low- and high-tech equipment and materials to facilitate communication, curriculum access, and skills development of students with disabilities.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use evidenced-based high leverage practices with a range of student needs, and evaluate a variety of pedagogical approaches to instruction, including instructional sequences, unit and lesson plans, in order to provide students with disabilities equitable access to the content and experiences aligned with the state-adopted core curriculum.
5. Demonstrate the ability to create short and long-term goals that are responsive to the unique needs of the student and meet the grade level requirements of the core curriculum, and which are systematically adjusted as needed to promote maximum learning and academic achievement within inclusive environments.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of core challenges associated with the neurology of open or closed head injuries resulting in impairments and adjust teaching strategies based upon the unique profile of students who present with physical/medical access issues or who retain a general fund of knowledge, but demonstrate difficulty acquiring and retaining new information due to poor memory processing, as well as neuro behavioral issues.
7. Coordinate, collaborate, co-teach and communicate effectively with other service providers, including paraprofessionals, general education teachers, parents, students, and community agencies for instructional planning and planning for successful student transitions.
8. Use person-centered/family centered planning processes, and strengths-based, functional/ecological assessments across classroom and non-classroom contexts that lead to students' meaningful participation in core, standards-based curriculum, life skills curriculum, and/or wellness curriculum, and that support progress toward IEP goals and objectives.

### **TPE 5: Assessing Student Learning** Elements

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

## Teaching Performance Expectations

1. Utilize person-centered/family centered planning processes, self-determination, strengths-based, functional/ecological, and observational assessment data from multiple sources to develop effective evidence-based instructional supports and strategies for students with extensive support needs.
2. Apply knowledge of the purposes, characteristics, and appropriate uses of different types of assessments used to determine special education eligibility, progress monitoring, and decision making regarding eligibility, placement in LRE, and services. Candidates also apply knowledge of when and how to use assessment sources that integrate alternative statewide assessments, formative assessments, and formal/informal assessment results as appropriate, based on students' needs.
3. Each candidate utilizes assessment data to: 1) identify effective intervention and support techniques, 2) develop needed augmentative and alternative systems, 3) implement instruction of communication and social skills, 4) create and facilitate opportunities for interaction; 5) develop communication methods to demonstrate student academic knowledge; and 6) address the unique learning, sensory and access needs of students with physical/orthopedic disabilities, other health impairments, and multiple disabilities.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of special education law, including the administration and documentation of assessments and how to hold IEP meetings according to the guidelines established by law.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of requirements for appropriate assessment and identification of students whose cultural, ethnic, gender, or linguistic differences may be misunderstood or misidentified as manifestations of a disability.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
7. Know how to appropriately administer assessments according to the established protocols for each assessment. Candidates also understand how to implement appropriate accommodations on assessments for students with disabilities that do not fundamentally alter the nature and/or content of what is being tested, and how to use AAC appropriately for facilitating the participation in the assessment of students with complex communications needs.

### **TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator**

#### **Elements**

Extensive Support Needs Candidates will:

1. Create supportive partnerships with parents, families, teachers and employers to provide instructional, behavioral, social, communication, sensory, and pragmatically appropriate supports to students with extensive support needs.
2. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate and collaborate effectively with paraprofessionals and other adults in the classroom.

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3. Identify and understand conflict resolution techniques that use communication, collaboration, and mediation approaches to address conflicts and disagreements that may arise during the facilitation of an IEP meeting or collaboration with other professionals.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of historical interactions and contemporary legal, medical, pedagogical, and philosophical models of social responsibility, treatment and education in the lives of individuals with disabilities.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of federal, state, and local policies related to specialized health care in educational settings.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the unique experiences of families of students who are chronically ill, are hospitalized and/or in transition from hospitalization, and/or who have degenerative conditions.
7. Possess the knowledge that the diminishment or loss of previous abilities (learning, social, physical) may have significant, long-term effects on the self-concept and emotional well-being of the student who acquires a traumatic brain injury as well as on their family members, requiring the provision of appropriate supports and services to address these issues.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### Early Childhood Special Education

#### ***The California Standards for the Teaching Profession:***

Standard 1: Engaging and Supporting All Students\* in Learning

Standard 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning

Standard 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning

Standard 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students

Standard 5: Assessing Students for Learning

Standard 6: Developing as a Professional Educator

*\*in the Early Childhood Special Education context, “students” is understood to refer to “young children,” from birth through kindergarten*

#### **Introduction to this Document**

**Organization:** This document uses the six standards of the *California Standards for the Teaching Profession* (CSTP) to organize the set of knowledge, skills, and performance expectations for a beginning California Early Childhood Special Education Specialist. The CSTP, developed with extensive stakeholder input, were selected as the organizing framework because these standards were purposefully developed and adopted by the Commission to be broadly encompassing and descriptive of the continuum of teaching and learning. Although the original version of the CSTP was developed to describe teaching and learning as applicable to TK-grade 12, the content of the standards in this document has been specifically adapted to apply to the work of California Early Childhood Special Education Specialist Teachers, and to address teaching and learning for California’s youngest learners from birth-kindergarten.

This document includes *Teaching Performance Expectations* (TPEs) within the six *California Standards for the Teaching Profession*. Each TPE includes a narrative that provides the context and intent of the TPE and a set of elements that identify key aspects of beginning performance. The numbering and order of the six TPEs do not indicate relative importance or value; all TPEs are considered equally important and valuable. In addition, the order of the elements within each PE do not indicate relative importance or value.

The *Teaching Performance Expectations* (TPEs) comprise the body of knowledge, skills, and abilities that Beginning California Early Childhood Education Specialist Teachers should have the opportunity to learn and practice in preparation programs in California. Beginning California Early Childhood Education Specialist Teachers demonstrate their knowledge and skills related to the TPEs in the context of successfully completing course work and engaging in TPE-related fieldwork/clinical practice in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) setting. The TPEs are intended to guide preparation program development; candidate competency with respect to the TPEs is assessed by programs during coursework and fieldwork/clinical practice experiences. The TPEs are research-based and aligned to expectations set forth in California's *Early Childhood Educator Competencies*, California’s Infant/Toddler and Preschool Learning Foundations, and related

## Teaching Performance Expectations

documents from the California Department of Education. They require beginning California Early Childhood Education Specialist Teachers to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments to meet the needs of every young child in their ECE setting, and to know and be able to apply pedagogical theories, principles, and instructional practices for the comprehensive instruction of all students with disabilities.

Beginning California Early Childhood Education Specialist Teachers are expected to know how to create inclusive learning environments and use their understanding of all students' developmental levels to provide effective instruction and assessment for all students, including students with disabilities and students who are English language/dual language learners, in the special education ECE setting.

**Addressing the teaching and learning of all young children:** Throughout this set of TPEs, reference is made to "all students" This phrase is intended as a widely inclusive term that references **all** students within a given ECE setting. Students may exhibit a wide range of learning and behavioral characteristics, as well as disabilities, dyslexia, intellectual or academic advancement, and differences based on ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, gender, gender identity, sexual identification/orientation, language, religion, and/or geographic origin. The range of students in California early learning special education settings also includes students whose first language is English, and dual language learners. This inclusive definition of "all students" applies whenever and wherever the phrase "all students" is used in these standards and TPEs.

**Source Documents:** The Standards and Expectations contained in this document are grounded in several key source documents in the field, as adapted to apply to a beginning California Early Childhood Education Specialist Teacher at the point of initial licensure. State licensure standards by design represent the *minimum* expectations for the target workforce at the level of initial entry into the profession, not the expectations for what an accomplished veteran ECE teacher or administrator would know or be able to do. The standards cited below as key source documents in the field largely describe levels of expected accomplished, veteran practice and thus the content of these documents have purposefully been synthesized and adapted to apply specifically to the *entry-level* workforce.

The source documents are:

- *The California Standards for the Teaching Profession*, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, 2009
- *The Teaching Performance Expectations*, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, rev. 2016
- *The California Early Childhood Educator Competencies*, California Department of Education, 2012
- *The California Preschool Learning Foundations, volumes 1-3*, California Department of Education, 2008

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### ***Job Role Addressed by this set of Standards and Performance Expectations: Teaching, Coaching and Mentoring in a special education ECE setting.***

An Early Childhood Education Specialist Teacher provides service in the care, development, and instruction of children with special needs in a child care and development program or other appropriate setting, assists in the professional learning, growth and development of other program staff through coaching and mentoring activities, and may also supervise the work of other adults in the specific ECE setting.

### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting Young Children in Learning Elements**

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate applied knowledge of typical and atypical child development when planning an individualized program for young children in the ECE special education setting.
2. Demonstrate applied knowledge of young children's' cultural and linguistic background, socioeconomic status, prior experiences, interests, social-emotional learning needs, and developmental learning needs within instructional planning, instructional and intervention activities.
3. Demonstrate understanding of young children's strengths and challenges across developmental (i.e., language and communication, social-emotional, cognition, adaptive/self-help, and motor) and curricular domains to support young children's access to the curriculum, provide appropriate learning opportunities and experiences, and facilitate young children's ability to participate effectively in instruction and intervention activities.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of children's language development across disabilities and the life span including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge and skills.
5. Communicate effectively and in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner with families and other service providers to facilitate and strengthen ongoing partnerships and collaborations that can support young children's learning goals and outcomes.
6. Promote the child's development across all developmental and curricular domains by observing, interpreting, monitoring, scaffolding, and responding intentionally to the child's behavior and interactions within instructional and other learning opportunities.



## Teaching Performance Expectations

7. Implement, monitor, and adapt instruction and intervention activities to facilitate young children's learning and progress in an ongoing, iterative manner in order to maximize young children's learning and outcomes.
8. Understand the unique care, development, and learning needs of infants and toddlers and how to support their growth, development, and learning within the early childhood special education setting.
9. Provide a supportive learning environment for students' first and/or second language acquisition by using research-based instructional approaches.
10. Monitor student learning and adjust instruction while teaching so that students continue to be actively engaged in learning.
11. Facilitate the continuation of young children's learning progress across multiple contexts and transitions including a variety of environments e.g., (home, school, community, hospital), and people (e.g., peers, service providers, family, community).

### **TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Young Children's Learning Elements**

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Facilitate positive learning experiences during daily routines and activities for children with disabilities in a wide range of environments (e.g. home-based services, community programs, school-based programs).
2. Promote children's access, learning and participation in a variety of environments using a wide range of co-teaching and collaborative consultation models of support that are strengths-based, family-centered, and culturally and linguistically responsive.
3. Organize space, time, and materials in consideration of all children's unique strengths and learning needs within safe, natural, and structured environments, including modifying and adapting the physical, social, and/or temporal environment(s) to promote each child's participation in accessible learning experiences.
4. Create an environment that promotes positive child behavior and participation through the use of principles of positive behavior support.
5. Identify, acquire, and implement assistive technology for individual children and Universal Design for Learning (UDL) for all children, including those with low-incidence disabilities, physical/orthopedic, and other health impaired, to promote access, learning, and participation

## Teaching Performance Expectations

across learning environments, including using augmentative and alternative strategies and interventions for the development of communication and social skills.

6. Create and foster inclusive environments that provide opportunities for all children to learn across the developmental domains (i.e., cognitive, social-emotional, language and communication, motor, self-help/adaptive) and curricular domains.

### **TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Young Children’s Learning Elements**

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the Early Start Personnel Manual, Infant/Toddler Learning and Developmental Foundations, Preschool Learning Foundations, and state-adopted Kindergarten Student Standards, including the principles of Universal Design for learning.
2. Demonstrate sufficient discipline-based knowledge, as applicable in the early childhood special education setting, to design effective learning sequences focused on teaching content to young children
3. Describe and implement the principles of effective instruction and facilitation in each content domain when planning curriculum and lesson plans within the early childhood special education context.
4. Identify key content appropriate for young children as identified in the California Infant/Toddler and *Preschool Learning Foundations* for planning developmentally appropriate curriculum and learning activities for young children in the special education setting.
5. Use knowledge about students and learning goals to organize the curriculum to facilitate student understanding of subject matters, and make accommodations and/or modification as needed to promote student access to the curriculum, as appropriate within the early childhood special education context.
6. Demonstrate appropriate content pedagogy for key subject and skill areas in the early childhood curriculum.
7. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of commonly-used early childhood curricula and approaches, including their alignment to the California Infant/Toddler and Preschool Learning Foundations and the principles put forth in the California Early Learning and Development System-based curriculum from the California Department of Education.

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8. Individually and through consultation and collaboration with other educators, plan for effective content instruction appropriate for young children in the special education setting and provide multiple ways for young learners to demonstrate their learning development.

9. Adapt the content of the curriculum, organization, and planning to support the acquisition and use of academic language within developmentally-appropriate content-focused learning activities to promote the knowledge of all students in the early childhood special education setting.

### **TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Intervention and Designing Learning Experiences for All Young Children**

#### Elements

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of typical child development (birth through Kindergarten) as well as atypical development associated with disabilities, risk conditions, and protective factors (e.g. attachment, temperament) to inform learning experiences for all children in the early childhood special education setting.

2. Apply knowledge of the Infant/Toddler Learning and Development Foundations, Preschool Learning Foundations, California Preschool Curriculum Frameworks, and state-adopted student standards for Kindergarten, as well as principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), to effectively plan and design learning experiences for all children that incorporate recommended, evidence-based practices.

3. Apply knowledge of early development (birth through Kindergarten) when identifying and selecting developmentally appropriate strategies, culturally and linguistically relevant and appropriate materials, and designing effective sequencing interventions to engage children in learning across developmental and curricular domains.

4. Use and adapt resources, instructional materials, and a range of technology, including assistive technology, to facilitate students' equitable access to the curriculum.

5. Identify each child's strengths, preferences, and interests in collaboration with families to engage the child in active learning within and across routines, activities, and environments.

6. Gather and use evaluation and assessment data on an ongoing basis to inform learning experiences for young children with disabilities, including children with low incidence, physical/orthopedic disabilities, and other health impaired, and young children who are dual language learners.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

7. Use systematic and consistent instructional and intervention strategies (e.g., peer-mediated interventions, positive behavior support, explicit feedback and consequences, scaffolding) to promote child engagement and support positive learning experiences across all contexts.
8. Establishing developmentally and functionally appropriate outcomes and goals for young children in collaboration with team members, including families.
9. Collaboratively create and implement instruction and intervention activities based on individualized learning goals and outcomes for children and families that support access, learning, and participation across developmental and curricular domains.
10. Embed individualized learning goals and outcomes into instructional, intervention, and play activities within different settings (e.g., hospitals, child care centers, school, other community settings, homes) and across developmental and curricular domains.
11. Implement services described in the IFSP/IEP (i.e., following the plan for the frequency, intensity, and duration of instruction and intervention) to achieve the child's outcomes or goals across learning experiences.
12. Provide instructional and intervention support for young children with disabilities who are dual language learners to assist them in learning English, while continuing to develop skills through the use of their home language.
13. Use coaching and consultation strategies with families and other professionals to facilitate positive adult-child interaction, instruction and interventions that promote child learning and development across learning experiences.

### **TPE 5: Assessing Young Children's Learning and Development Elements**

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of age and developmentally appropriate purposes, characteristics, and uses of different types of assessment (e.g., authentic, play-based, dynamic, functional behavior assessment, family interviews, diagnostic, progress-monitoring, observational, and performance).
2. Choose assessment procedures that will provide appropriate and accurate information to effectively guide the development of individualized goals, identify desired and child and family outcomes, and inform instruction and intervention activities.

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3. Demonstrate knowledge of evidence-and standards-based practices in designing and conducting evaluations and assessments, including selecting and using age, developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate assessments of young children whose cultural, ethnic, gender, or linguistic differences may potentially be confused with manifestations of a disability.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
5. Modify assessment procedures as acceptable within the normative parameters of the particular assessment to accommodate or compensate for the impact of the child' disability on the child's ability to perform on the assessment as designed.
6. Use ongoing assessment data from a variety of sources and settings (e.g., information from children's' families/caregivers, records from other service providers progress monitoring, and reports from IFSP/ IEP team members) to establish meaningful, individualized learning goals and intervention activities.
7. Interpret English learners' assessment data to identify their level of proficiency in English as well as in their primary language, as applicable, and use this information in planning instruction.
8. Communicate and use assessment results accurately and effectively so that they are understandable and useful to families and other service providers.

### **TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator** Elements

Early Childhood Special Education Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical and contemporary theoretical, philosophical, legal, and empirical influences underlying evidence-based practices in the field of Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education and related fields, and uses this knowledge to shape his or her practice with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, families, administrators, community organizations and agencies.
2. Develop and implement policies, structures, and practices that promote shared decision making with other service providers and families.
3. Hold and/or participate effectively in IFSP/IEP meetings according to the guidelines established by IDEA and the California Education Code.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

4. Develop and implement effective transitional plans to support the ongoing learning and development of children entering different learning settings (e.g., home-based services to preschool, preschool to kindergarten).
5. Promote efficient and coordinated service delivery for children and families by creating and supporting the conditions for service providers from multiple disciplines and the family to work together as a team.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of professional standards and all applicable laws and regulations governing service provision for children with disabilities from birth to kindergarten and their families.
7. Effectively articulate the rationale for instruction and intervention plans through culturally- and linguistically-appropriate verbal and written communications to and with family members, other service providers, administration, and other stakeholders.
8. Facilitate effective collaborative transitions between the stages of schooling and educational settings (e.g., infant/toddler to preschool, preschool to kindergarten, kindergarten to elementary).
9. Demonstrate the ability to self-reflect, self-evaluate, and professionally respond to feedback from family members, other service providers, administration, supervisors, and stakeholders.
10. Demonstrates characteristics of a life-long learner and teacher leader in a variety of ways such as, for example, seeking out and participating in professional development opportunities, initiating ongoing connections with families and community organizations, or choosing to affiliate with professional organizations related to the field.
11. Demonstrate the ability to co-plan and co-teach with teachers and other adults in the ECE setting.
12. Demonstrate how to organize and supervise the work of other adults in the early childhood classroom.
13. Provide ongoing guidance and feedback through coaching and modeling for paraprofessionals supporting the individualized instruction and intervention activities of children with disabilities, including those with low incidence disabilities, and young children with disabilities who are also dual language learners.
14. Demonstrate how to provide constructive performance feedback to adults, as well as to communicate effectively with staff being supervised and with one's own supervisors.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

15. Identify and explain the key differences between mentoring, coaching, and supervision/supervisory processes in a professional development context within the early childhood setting.

16. Identify, explain, and demonstrate knowledge and skills relating to effective on the job mentoring (e.g., building a relationship of mutual trust and confidence with the mentee; identifying goals and specific knowledge/skills areas for mentoring outcomes; demonstrating and encouraging and supporting reflective practice; maintaining confidentiality of personal information; managing practical arrangements for mentoring time and follow up; active listening skills; effective questioning skills; and non-judgmental approaches to helping the mentee grow and develop in the profession).

17. Identify, explain, and demonstrate knowledge and skills relating to effective on the job coaching (e.g., building a relationship of mutual trust and confidence; helping the person being coached to identify his/her own learning and improvement goals and supporting the attainment of those goals; a genuine desire and interest in helping the person being coached; helping the person being coached to develop his/her own solutions through asking appropriate questions and stimulating further thinking about the issues; avoiding making assumptions about the person being coached and/or his/her approaches to addressing improvement issues and goals; demonstrating empathy, emotional intelligence, active listening skills, and effective communication skills; maintaining confidentiality as appropriate).

18. Explain how to identify information about program and personnel effectiveness, and how to communicate this information to one's supervisors.

## Teaching Performance Expectations

### Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)

A **glossary of bolded terms** can be found at the end of the document.

#### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning Elements**

DHH Candidates will:

1. Provide and sustain a language rich environment in American Sign Language (ASL) and/or English for deaf students to foster social and academic discourse and comprehension, using multimodal instruction, skill training (signed/viewing, spoken/listening, and/or written language as a **heritage language**), **research-based bilingual education methodology**, **translanguaging** practices and current effective learning.
2. Communicate proficiently in American Sign Language (ASL) and/or English and engage with students using multimodal instruction (signed, spoken, and/or written) scaffolding, multiple ways of representing content, and teaching strategies to address the specific needs of student learning, as stipulated in the IFSP/IEP/ITP/504 Plan.
3. Collaborate with students and families to make instruction learner-centered, developmentally appropriate, and meaningful, reflecting home and school connections, knowledge of child development (linguistic, cognitive, socio-emotional, & cultural development) and additional special needs.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of students' language development across disabilities and the life span, including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge and skills.
5. Develop and implement the IFSP, IEP, ITP, or 504 Plan collaboratively with families with an emphasis on **language planning** that provides equal access to the general education core curriculum with accommodations and modifications, and progress monitoring, taking into consideration all educational/communication options available (including the use of **Assistive Technology** and **Augmentative and Alternative Communicative Devices** as appropriate).
6. Connect subject matter to deaf-related events and experiences to make learning personal, meaningful, and culturally relevant to students.
7. Differentiate instruction and curriculum access for all students by emphasizing multimodal instruction (auditory, visual, tactile, gestural) activities and incorporating various funds of knowledge from diverse home backgrounds, cultures, styles of learning, and perspectives into curricular activities.
8. Prepare effective transition plans from birth to age 22 through the IFSP/IEP/ITP/504 Plan with students and their families, including goals for self-advocacy, independent living, post-



## Teaching Performance Expectations

secondary education, and career assessment and vocational evaluation, with appropriate connections between the school curriculum and life beyond school.

### **TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning** Elements

DHH Candidates will:

1. Establish a caring, stimulating, and safe community for diverse deaf learners in which students assume responsibility for learning and self-advocacy, show willingness to take intellectual risks, develop self-confidence, and learn to work collaboratively and independently.
2. Design learning environments that maximize opportunities to progress from emerging to a formal language, and using **translanguaging techniques** appropriate to each student to further ASL and/or English competency.
3. Establish, maintain, and monitor an inclusive environment which cultivates **language equity** by demonstrating communication skills that enable diverse language learners to access, comprehend, and apply information; acquire knowledge; and, develop and maintain interpersonal relationships.
4. Recognize and appropriately address instances of intolerance and harassment among students, based on awareness of the diverse cultural and linguistic identity and **intersectionality** among students.
5. Select, adapt, create and use culturally-relevant language-rich resources to support deaf students with diverse language and learning needs.
6. Assume accountability for establishing, maintaining, and demonstrating the use of any assistive technology (visual, auditory, and/or tactile) to develop self-advocacy for deaf students and their families.
7. Maintain high expectations for learning with appropriate support for the full range of deaf students (including students who experience language deprivation, behavior, and/or **mental health** and **medical** needs) in the classroom by making effective use of support specialists, other **service providers**, available non-certificated staff, and other community resources.
8. Provide ongoing opportunities for safe, meaningful social interactions between language-model peers and adults who are deaf, as appropriate to each student's identity.
9. Utilize and embed collaborative discussions surrounding the unique leadership contributions of positive, diverse Deaf community role models within the classroom to support the development of self-identity and well-being in each deaf student.

### **TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning** Elements

DHH Candidates will:

## Teaching Performance Expectations

1. Master technical vocabulary and key concepts in content areas of instruction, effectively using social and academic language (ASL and/or English) to enhance vocabulary knowledge.
2. Demonstrate the ability to effectively deliver content knowledge (core general education curriculum) in the language of instruction (ASL and/or English) utilizing strategies appropriate to deaf students based on current evidence-based research.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate expressive (signed, spoken, and written) and receptive (listening, reading and viewing) language skills strategies and **assessments** based on the language of instruction (ASL and/or English).
4. Demonstrate knowledge of **translanguaging** and **transliterating techniques** (ASL-printed English and/or spoken language-printed English) in the delivery of content knowledge.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of auditory, tactile and visual accommodation, differentiation, and/or modification of instruction to meet the linguistic, cognitive, social, and emotional needs of each student.
6. Construct accessible learning experiences that incorporate use of **auditory, tactile, and visually** assistive materials, resources, and technology to facilitate meaningful and authentic learning for all students.
7. Use appropriate multimedia tools to provide language access and support conceptual knowledge.
8. Use current culturally relevant and appropriate deaf-related materials (literature, linguistics, culture, anthropology), to foster a healthy positive identity.

### **TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students** Elements

DHH Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to design and implement effective individual, social, academic, cognitive, and language learning activities using appropriate auditory/tactile/visual strategies for diverse learners all ages (birth to 22) taking into account different backgrounds, learning preferences, and learning environments while using essential elements of instruction that are culturally relevant, data driven, and standards-related.
2. Understand and apply knowledge of typical and atypical language development (signed, spoken, and written) among deaf students, to help inform instructional planning and learning experiences.
3. Design reasonable language and content objectives and benchmarks for instruction implementation and conducting ongoing assessment to strengthen the interconnectedness of academic content areas, critical thinking and language scaffolding using a variety of resources (ESL and ELL techniques, ASL/English bilingual strategies) accessible to all learners.
4. Plan and design instruction that develops students' self-advocacy skills and learning needs from ages birth to 22.
5. Access resources for planning and instruction, including the expertise of Deaf, hard-of-

## Teaching Performance Expectations

hearing and deafblind communities and school colleagues through in-person or virtual collaboration, co-teaching, coaching, and/or networking.

6. Plan instruction that promotes a variety of receptive and expressive language development skills and strategies.
7. Coordinate, collaborate, co-teach and communicate effectively with other agencies, educators, **service providers**, parents, students, and Deaf community agencies for instructional planning and planning for successful deaf student transitions.

### **TPE 5: Assessing Student Learning**

#### Elements

DHH Candidates will:

1. Apply knowledge of federal and state special education laws and regulations, assessment terminology, legal provisions, and ethical principles in selecting, adapting, administering, interpreting, and explaining **assessments** for placement and progress monitoring.
2. Gather relevant information through reading, interpreting and using informal and formal assessment data from IFSP, IEP, ITP, and 504 plans develop differentiated instruction, and to make appropriate accommodations or modifications.
3. Develop and administer linguistically and culturally appropriate **assessments** in the language understood by the students guide instruction and monitor progress.
4. Evaluate instructional practices, and record, monitor, and share evidence of academic, linguistic, and socioemotional progress to all **stakeholders**.
5. Assess and design measurable and appropriate language (sign, spoken, and written, as appropriate for each student) and content goals based on **assessments** of student growth to determine level of proficiency for each deaf student.
6. Evaluate and design, with the interdisciplinary team, a high school transition plan that includes language and communication skills to enhance self-advocacy, access and independence.

### **TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator**

#### Elements

DHH Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of deaf education including trends, philosophies, and legal foundations, and the ways in which these issues continue to positively and negatively influence policy and practice today.
2. Demonstrate the ability to present unbiased information to families on the differences in **perspectives on deafness**, the range of educational opportunities available for deaf children, and support families in their decision-making process by providing information on the linguistic, cognitive, social, and emotional needs of deaf children, federal and state special education regulations, and connections with parent support groups, community agencies,

## Teaching Performance Expectations

and deaf role models.

3. Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively with families, support providers, general education professionals, community agencies and the Deaf community, recognizing and respecting their roles and responsibilities in meeting the needs of students.
4. Demonstrate the ability to manage, monitor, and maintain **assistive auditory technologies**, to apply information from audiograms to develop listening expectations, maximize use of residual hearing, and develop auditory processing and comprehension skills, as well as self-advocacy skills in both social and academic contexts.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of universal design for learning, and common accommodations and modifications to meet the linguistic, cognitive, social, and emotional needs of deaf students.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of deafblind as a unique disability requiring specialized assessment and teaching strategies, as a well as a team approach in collaboration with other **service providers** and community agencies to design assessment and instruction.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of current research in evidence-based teaching practices, technologies, policies, and trends in deaf education.

### DHH TPEs Glossary Terms (*from bolded terms in TPEs*)

1. **Deaf:** The term *deaf* is used in an all-inclusive manner, to include students who may identify as Deaf, deaf, deafblind, deafdisabled, hard of hearing, late-deafened and hearing impaired (NAD, 2018). We have chosen to use one term, *deaf*, with the goal of recognizing experiences that are shared by all members of this diverse population while also honoring all of their differences.
2. **Heritage language:** The term heritage language has been variously defined as 1) a minority language learned by its speakers at home as children, but never fully developed, because speakers grow up with a dominant language, in which they become more competent, 2) a continuum that ranges from fluent speakers to barely speaking individuals of the home language (Polinsky & Kagan, 2007), 3) the language of a person's family or community, which the person does not speak or understand but with which he/she culturally identifies (Ochs & Schieffelin, 2017). Heritage language learners (HLLs) more recently have been defined as “individuals with familial or ancestral ties to a language other than English who exert their agency in determining if they are HLLs of that language” (Hornberger & Wang, 2017).
3. **Research-based bilingual education methodology:** Research-based bilingual education methods may be implemented in a variety of structures, which may include: 1) bilingual-bicultural, where sign language is learned as the native, or first, language, which then serves as a foundation to access written language (Marschark, Tang, & Knoors, 2014); or

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- 2) bilingual, where two or more spoken languages are learned, either concurrently or sequentially, e.g., ASL and a spoken language, English and Spanish, etc.
4. **Translanguaging techniques:** the use of a variety of language strategies and practices that foster linguistic diversity within the classroom that values multiple languages by leveraging students' full language repertoire (not to be confused with code-switching), i.e., read thematically in multiple languages, process language in multiple languages, multilingual word walls, multilingual writing.
  5. **Language planning:** is a strategy that specifies how each language will be taught in a dual language program.
  6. **Assistive technology:** Assistive technology is used to refer to a broad category of technologies that assist individuals in accessing their environment for communication and/or learning. These include technologies that enhance auditory, visual, or tactile information. **Assistive auditory technologies** include hearing aids, BAHAs (Bone Anchored Hearing Aids), cochlear implants, auditory brainstem implants, hearing or induction loops, wireless Bluetooth/FM/infrared systems, and personal amplifiers. Other assistive technologies may include alerting devices, such as visual alarms, vibrators, and flashing lights, computer or electronic assistive devices, computer software and hardware, such as voice recognition programs, speech generating devices, screen readers, and screen enlargement applications, closed captioning, video communication systems (e.g. FM systems, RMT). Assistive technology also includes augmentative and alternative communication devices; see Augmentative and Alternative Communication (Clerc Center, 2014).
  7. **Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC):** Communication methods that supplement or replace speech or writing, often using a tool, such as a communication board with visual/graphic symbols, or computer programs that use synthesized/digitized speech to communicate for the user (National Joint Committee/ASHA, 2018).
  8. **Language equity:** Language equity includes the concept of power dynamics between dominant and marginalized groups, which is often based on groups marginalized due to their language, if it doesn't match the language of the dominant group (Komesaroff, 2013). Language equity is the quality of being fair and impartial regarding students' language differences with the focus of all instruction leading to comprehension (Cervantes-Soon, et al 2017).
  9. **Intersectionality:** The interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage, e.g., *Deaf+woman+Latina*.
  10. **Mental health needs:** childhood trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, socioemotional disorder, conduct disorder, disruptive behavior, oppositional defiant disorder, separation anxiety, generalized anxiety, depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and

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autism spectrum, or other generalized mental health needs that may impact a student's academic success or failure.

11. **Medical:** Medical pertains to any needs that are overseen by medical professionals (physicians, nurses, psychiatrists, etc.), e.g., tracheotomies and Passy Valves, seizure disorders, cerebral palsy, etc.
12. **Service providers:** Service providers are professional personnel who may have roles for serving the student through the IFSP, IEP, or Transition Plan, usually as related services. They include speech language pathologists, audiologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, medical and health professionals, psychologists, interpreters, parent counseling and training personnel, orientation and mobility personnel, etc. (Parent Center Hub, 2017).
13. **Assessments:** Includes functional behavior assessment, informal, formal, formative, summative, diagnostic, progress-monitoring, and evidence-based performance used for the purpose of screening, referral, placement, progress monitoring, etc.
14. **Transliterating techniques:** code-switching; mapping from one system of language to another: i.e., reading an English text utilizing ASL signs or transliterating spoken language using Cued Speech.
15. **Auditory:** Auditory pertains to the sense of hearing, or to the organs of hearing, specifically what is perceived through or resulting from the sense of hearing, as well as any auditory input, such as speech, music, or environmental sounds used to enhance communication or illustrate a concept being taught.
16. **Tactile:** Tactile pertains to the sense of touch, or to the organs of touch, specifically what is perceived through or resulting from the sense of touch, and any tactile input, such as pressure, movement, temperature to enhance communication or illustrate a concept being taught.
17. **Visual:** Visual pertains to the sense of seeing, specifically what is perceived through the or resulting from the organs of vision, and any visual input, such as a symbol, picture, sign, video clip, or display used to enhance or accompany communication or illustrate or a concept being taught.
18. **Stakeholders:** anyone who is invested in the welfare and success of *deaf* students, including administrators, teachers, staff members, students, parents, families, community members, local business leaders, interpreters, elected officials such as school board members, city councilors or state representatives. *Stakeholders* may also be collective entities, such as local businesses, organizations, advocacy groups, committees, media outlets, and cultural institutions.
19. **Perspectives on deafness:** Perspectives on deafness include a continuum of cultural identities. Cultural identity includes the traditions, customs, language, and worldview of the culture. Cultural identity for deaf children is quite diverse, and may include Deaf culture, where ASL or another form of sign language (e.g., Mexican Sign Language) is the

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community language, or cultural identity may include the culture of the hearing family, which usually includes one or more spoken languages (English, Spanish, Mandarin, etc.). Cultural identity may include a range between these two options.

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## Teaching Performance Expectations

### Education Specialist Visual Impairments

Teachers of the visually impaired (TVI) are special education teachers who, with their Education Specialist credential, are authorized to assess and teach students birth through age 22 with visual impairments. These teachers provide service and access to general education, and assessment and direct instruction in the expanded core curriculum (ECC). The ECC refers to nine areas of development that are impacted by a visual impairment and include compensatory skills (including Braille proficiency), orientation and mobility, social skills, independent living skills, recreation and leisure, career education, use of assistive technology, sensory efficiency skills, and self-determination. These areas of development are typically learned by students without visual impairments through interactions with their environment, but students who are visually impaired require specialized assessment and direct instruction in these areas due to the impact of a visual impairment on the natural course of learning and development.

#### **TPE 1: Engaging and Supporting Students in Learning** Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Accurately read, interpret, and summarize eye reports and serve as liaison to families and other members of the educational team to individualize services.
2. Select and develop assessment and teaching strategies for core and expanded core curriculum areas including accommodations and modifications that address age (birth-22 years old), visual impairment, family values and priorities, visual prognosis, and other individual characteristics across settings and tasks, including addressing learner needs for individuals with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments), and individuals with co-occurring disabilities (including autism and deaf blindness).
3. Use alternate visual and nonvisual strategies to promote attachment, early communication, and independence to address the effects of visual impairment and unique learning and developmental differences on families and the reciprocal impact on individuals' self-esteem.
4. Select, adapt, and use nonvisual/alternate instructional strategies to address student needs for individuals from birth-22 years old who have a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments), possibility of co-occurring disabilities (including individuals with autism and/or Deaf-blindness), and other individual characteristics.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of students' language development across disabilities and the life span, including typical and atypical language development, communication skills, social pragmatics, the hierarchy of brain based learning skills (e.g. executive functioning) and vocabulary/semantic development as they relate to the acquisition of academic knowledge

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and skills.

6. Instruct and supervise para-educators, families, and other members of the educational team in non-visual strategies that optimize use of all senses, development, and learning, while also promoting independence and autonomy.
7. Collaborate with assistive technology specialists, assistive technology vendors, instructional technology specialists, and other professionals to support the inclusion of the most appropriate, customized tools into the educational programming and accessibility needs of individuals with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) including learners with co-occurring disabilities (including autism and deaf blindness).
8. Assess and instruct students to use mainstream and assistive technology devices to engage and support student learning in general and expanded core curriculum.
9. Adapt mainstream technology software/hardware including adjusting visual and auditory output based on individual characteristics.
10. Counsel families and other members of the educational team about psychosocial and cultural implications of visual impairment as related to congenital and acquired visual impairment.

### **TPE 2: Creating and Maintaining Effective Environments for Student Learning** Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Identify and implement environmental accommodations and modifications to facilitate optimal sensory use and multisensory access to, and active participation in, individual and group activities in general and expanded core curriculum environments, including addressing learner needs for individuals with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities (including autism and Deaf-Blindness).
2. Collaborate with team members including other vision specialists, resource and alternate media specialists, and technology personnel to design and implement environments that promote optimal sensory use, foundational orientation and mobility skills, independence, social engagement, and efficient storage of specialized materials.
3. Identify unique issues specific to visual impairment for accessing digital multimedia and virtual built environments such as software programs, websites, and virtual classrooms.
4. Use ergonomics and appropriate technology settings aligned with students' preferred learning media, such as illumination and size control, color and contrast (visual) settings, speech output (auditory) settings, braille input/output and other tactual displays, mouseless computing (tactile) settings, and low tech strategies to support ubiquitous computing to promote access to the general and expanded core curriculum.
5. Facilitate incidental learning experiences to address nonvisual access across physical and virtual environments for a full range of learners, including addressing learner needs for individuals with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral

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- visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities (including autism and Deaf-Blindness).
6. Evaluate social interaction skills and design behavior management strategies appropriate for learners with visual impairments to maximize positive social engagement/interaction across all environments.
  7. Teach and support students with visual impairments' skills in using human guide, spatial orientation and self-familiarization within school environments, protective techniques for safe travel across classroom and school campus environments.
  8. Teach students with visual impairment to develop orientation skills using physical and virtual environmental features, identify and advocate for optimal physical and virtual environmental accommodations and modifications, and to request and refuse assistance as needed.
  9. Teach students with visual impairment nonvisual and alternate strategies for promoting digital citizenship and secure online practices.
  10. Communicate with technology, web, and curriculum developers and IT staff on accessibility needs of learners with visual impairments.
  11. Collaborate with vision care facilities/professionals, such as low vision specialists, to identify accommodations and modifications to optimize use of vision and other senses to facilitate access to the general and expanded core curriculum, including addressing learner needs for individuals with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities (including autism and Deaf-Blindness).
  12. Structure and supervise the activities of para-educators who support students with visual impairments.

### **TPE 3: Understanding and Organizing Subject Matter for Student Learning** Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, proofreading, and interlining alphabetic and fully contracted Unified English Braille.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, proofreading, and interlining braille for mathematics and scientific notation and basic proficiency in using the abacus.
3. Demonstrate basic proficiency in reading, writing, proofreading, and interlining music, foreign language, and computer braille code.
4. Produce braille with a manual braille writer, slate and stylus, computer (including use of braille translation software), and electronic braille production methods.
5. Identify specialized resources unique to visual impairment to address the specific communication needs of students with varied communication abilities, reading levels, science, technology, engineering, art, math (STEAM) abilities, and language proficiency
6. Develop, collaboratively implement, and continuously monitor communication goals, objectives, and systems for students with visual impairments with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.

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7. Collaborate with team members such as speech/language pathologists, occupational therapists, and classroom staff to modify the presentation of augmentative/alternative communication devices such as switches, tangible symbols, and visual displays for nonvisual or low vision access.
8. Design, obtain, and organize specialized materials, resources, assistive technology, and curricular programs to optimize sensory efficiency and to implement instructional and individualized education program goals and objectives.
9. Identify the individual needs of the full range of learners, and adapt materials and curricula as appropriate to provide access to the general education and Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC).
10. Develop, implement, and continuously monitor learning objectives and goals for optimizing sensory use, developing concepts, and accessing the general and ECC across settings.
11. Identify general education and visual impairment specific curricula for instruction of literacy, STEAM, other academic areas, and the ECC.
12. Implement consistent, structured, explicit, and differentiated reading instruction for individuals who are learning to read in braille.
13. Collaborate with the educational team to promote literacy and STEAM development.

### **TPE 4: Planning Instruction and Designing Learning Experiences for All Students** Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Develop, coordinate, and implement appropriate programs for infants and young children with visual impairments with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and including those with co-occurring disabilities (including autism and Deaf-Blindness), and their families.
2. Obtain resources for braille codes currently in use.
3. Use digital resources, hardware, and software to produce and access materials in accessible media including the conversion of print materials into braille, tactile, and/or digital formats.
4. Use and teach device/software navigation features for efficient and equitable navigation of information.
5. Use visual, nonvisual, and adaptive methods to teach technologies to students with visual impairments to access information stored online.
6. Select and use visual, nonvisual, and adaptive methods to teach technologies to achieve individual goals and needs based on sensory skills, learning media, constraints of different types of content, individual keyboarding skills, ability to read and write, listening skills, and ability to access visual information.
7. Plan and implement explicit instruction in assistive technology that permits students to meet, and advocate for, their own access needs.
8. Teach students to install and maintain assistive technology, use troubleshooting techniques, and appropriately use connectivity.
9. Teach students to use visual, nonvisual, and/or adaptive methods to organize their own work

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- space, manage materials, and gain access to needed resources.
10. Create, adapt, and format documents, including text, images, graphics, and video to improve accessibility based on individual needs.
  11. Use basic methods to adapt and format inaccessible media, text, images, graphics, and video to improve usability for students with visual impairments.
  12. Provide systematic, explicit braille literacy instruction using balanced instructional approaches for teaching literacy skills to students, embossed materials, and digital technologies to meet individual needs.
  13. Teach the use of the abacus, accessible calculator, tactile graphics, adapted equipment, and appropriate technology for science, technology, engineering, art, math (STEAM) instruction to meet individual needs.
  14. Teach students to access, interpret, and create increasingly complex 3-dimensional, printed, and digital graphics in visual and/or tactile forms, including maps, charts, diagrams, objects, and tables, based on individual needs.
  15. Teach students with low vision to use optical, electronic, and non-optical devices to optimize visual efficiency/independence and independently use dual learning media such as visual and auditory information, or auditory and tactile information.
  16. Promote and reinforce sensorimotor and physical skills, including gross and fine motor, posture, balance, purposeful movement, and strength to meet individual needs unique to visual impairment.
  17. Teach basic orientation including body image, and spatial, temporal, positional, directional, and physical and virtual environmental concepts based on individual needs to promote motor and spatial skills development, orientation and mobility in physical and virtual environments, for academic and social inclusion.
  18. Reinforce skills taught by orientation and mobility specialists to support the use of mobility devices, including long cane, adaptive mobility devices, dog guides, electronic travel devices, and other technology for orientation and mobility.
  19. Teach independent living skills using alternate strategies based on individual needs, including skills related to organization, personal hygiene, grooming, clothing care, dressing, time management, eating, cooking, cleaning, other household tasks, telephone use, and money management.
  20. Teach social interaction skills based on individual needs, including skills related to appropriate body language and non-verbal communication, social communication and cooperation, effective conversation patterns, social etiquette, digital citizenship, development and monitoring of relationships and friendships, and knowledge of self, including human sexuality.
  21. Teach skills usually acquired visually to develop and enhance participation in fitness/leisure/recreation activities, hobbies, and team and spectator sports to facilitate inclusion across settings.
  22. Teach career education skills usually acquired visually to facilitate transition of students with visual impairments based on individual needs, including facilitating positive work habits and skills, concepts related to work, exploration of vocational interests, opportunities to work,

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use of technology to complete tasks in the workplace, and for planning for post-school engagement across settings.

23. Teach self-determination skills usually acquired visually based on individual needs related to self-knowledge, self-advocacy and empowerment, assertiveness, informed decision making, problem solving, goal setting, and self-directed and self-regulated behavior to facilitate inclusion across settings.
24. Teach students to recognize and report behaviors that they may not perceive visually that may threaten their personal safety and well-being.
25. Teach students their legal rights and responsibilities related to being a citizen with a visual impairment.
26. Collaborate with families and orientation and mobility specialists to reinforce orientation and mobility skills and other Expanded Core Curriculum skills across settings.
27. Collaborate with families and other team members to plan and implement transitions across the life-span (birth-22 years old) that address needs unique to students with visual impairments with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
28. Instruct para-educators, braille transcribers and/or alternate media, and related resource specialists on the production of accessible media including text, images, and video in collaboration with the educational team and families.

### **TPE 5: Assessing Student Learning**

#### Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Interpret medical reports and multiple sources of data, including background information and family history, to plan and implement nondiscriminatory assessments/evaluations to meet individualized needs unique to visual impairment with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
2. Use multiple sources of valid information/data, including data from formal/informal assessments such as discrepancy analysis, interview data, checklists, to evaluate the effectiveness of intervention, instruction, specialized media, materials, equipment, and the physical environment for learners with visual impairments with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
3. Use results from multiple, valid assessment/evaluation sources and medical reports to determine eligibility for vision specific services, with and without specific visual diagnoses
4. Use valid and multiple methods in each assessment area to collect functional vision, learning media, assistive technology, and other assessment/evaluation data plus medical reports related to individual characteristics to select appropriate assessment/evaluation measures, procedures, and supports.
5. Use valid assessment data and knowledge of the potential impact of visual impairment on

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psychosocial functioning to identify when referral for psychosocial and psychoeducational assessment/evaluations are necessary.

6. Adapt assessments/evaluations when tests are not validated on individuals with visual impairments, such as provision of appropriate accommodations to ensure students can access evaluation materials, and interpret results with caution.
7. Identify assessment/evaluation items and measures that are biased and make recommendations for learning media, low vision, and/or non-visual accommodations and modifications.
8. Collaborate with team members and families to plan and implement assessments/evaluations, including functional behavior assessments.
9. Interpret assessment/evaluation results on issues specific to visual impairment with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
10. Conduct functional vision, learning media, assistive technology (AT), and other core and expanded core curriculum-related assessments/evaluations and relate to student needs in ECC matched to individual needs.
11. Assess cognitive, motor, social, and language concepts unique to individuals with visual impairments with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
12. Use multiple sources of data, including functional vision, learning media, assistive technology assessment/evaluation data, clinical low vision evaluation data, and formal and informal literacy assessment/evaluation, to determine appropriate learning and literacy media (braille, print, or combination of both) and needed assistive technology, such as video magnification tools, recorded/digital books, and synthesized speech software settings, across a full range of learners.
13. Interpret assessment/evaluation results to determine individual needs to support acquisition of skills in both the general and expanded core curriculum, and interpret how a visual impairment may impact behavior.
14. Identify and advocate for reasonable accommodations and modifications for standardized assessments/evaluations.
15. Communicate ocular and cerebral visual impairment needs specific to assessment/evaluation data accurately to the educational team, including families, in comprehensive assessment/evaluation reports that address limitations of standard scores and non-standard data.
16. Assess unique educational needs of individuals who are visually impaired who are English language learners and/or who are from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds.
17. Demonstrate knowledge of second language development and the distinction between language disorders, disabilities, and language differences.
18. Use results of clinical low vision evaluation, functional vision, learning media, and assistive technology assessments/evaluations to identify optimal assistive technology devices, software, text adaptations, and settings, such as font size, color and contrast, audio speed.
19. Collaborate with educational team, including families, on eligibility, placement, specialized

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services, implementation of appropriate behavior plans, assessment/evaluation planning and implementation, and service delivery issues unique to visual impairment with a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.

### **TPE 6: Developing as a Professional Educator** Elements

TVI Candidates will:

1. Develop and maintain professional learning and practice by actively participating in professional organizations and professional development activities within the field of visual impairments including a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
2. Articulate instructional and professional philosophies and ethical practices to address the specific needs of students with visual impairment across settings.
3. Articulate and advocate for individual needs regarding placement, service delivery models, type and amount of service, and key components of services unique to visual impairment across ages and settings.
4. Articulate an instructional philosophy that incorporates the expanded core curriculum to respond to the specific implications of visual impairment across settings.
5. Advocate for evidence-based educational policy related to visual impairment and low incidence disabilities.
6. Articulate a plan for continuous professional development to remain current on all areas of the expanded core curriculum, with particular attention to access technology, most prevalent causes of and medical treatments for severe visual impairment and co-occurring disabilities, and implications on learning and instruction of students with visual impairments including a wide range of abilities and functional vision (including ocular and cerebral visual impairments) and co-occurring disabilities, including autism and Deaf-Blindness.
7. Conduct internet and library database searches to locate information specific to visual impairment.
8. Use tools for online engagement in communities of practice.
9. Evaluate and discern credible and scholarly sources of information about visual impairments, including knowledge of valid and reliable research techniques.
10. Serve as liaison between medical care providers, families, and other members of the educational team to clarify findings and provide further information regarding functional implications unique to visual impairment.