

282—15.15(272) Orientation and mobility specialist.

15.15(1) Authorization. The holder of this license is authorized to teach pupils (see Iowa Code section 256B.8) with a visual impairment, including those pupils who are deafblind.

15.15(2) Provisional orientation and mobility license. The provisional license is valid for three years. An applicant must:

- a. Hold a baccalaureate or master's degree from an approved state and regionally accredited program in orientation and mobility or equivalent coursework.
- b. Have completed an approved human relations component.
- c. Have completed the exceptional learner program, which must include preparation that contributes to the education of students with disabilities and students who are talented and gifted.
- d. Have completed a minimum of 21 semester credit hours in the following areas:
 - (1) Medical aspects of blindness and visual impairment, including sensory motor.
 - (2) Psychosocial aspects of blindness and visual impairment.
 - (3) Child development.
 - (4) Concept development.
 - (5) History of orientation and mobility.
 - (6) Foundations of orientation and mobility.
 - (7) Orientation and mobility instructional methods and assessments.
 - (8) Techniques of orientation and mobility.
 - (9) Research or evidence-based practices in orientation and mobility.
 - (10) Professional issues in orientation and mobility, including legal issues.
- e. Have completed at least 350 hours of fieldwork and training under the supervision of the university program.

15.15(3) Standard orientation and mobility license. An applicant must:

- a. Complete the requirements set forth in subrule 15.15(2).
- b. Verify successful completion of a three-year probationary period.

15.15(4) Renewal of orientation and mobility license. An applicant must:

- a. Complete six units earned in any combination listed below.
 - (1) One unit may be earned for each semester hour of graduate credit, completed through a regionally accredited institution, which leads toward the completion of a planned master's, specialist's, or doctor's degree program.
 - (2) One unit may be earned for each semester hour of graduate or undergraduate credit, completed through a regionally accredited institution, which may not lead to a degree but which adds greater depth and breadth to present endorsements held.
 - (3) One unit may be earned for each semester hour of credit, completed through a regionally accredited institution, which may not lead to a degree but which leads to completion of requirements for an endorsement not currently held.
 - (4) One unit may be earned upon completion of each licensure renewal course or activity approved through guidelines established by the board of educational examiners.
- b. Submit documentation of completion of the child and dependent adult abuse training approved by the state abuse education review panel. A waiver of this requirement may apply under the following conditions with appropriate documentation of any of the following:
 - (1) A person is engaged in active duty in the military service of this state or of the United States.
 - (2) The application of this requirement would impose an undue hardship on the person for whom the waiver is requested.
 - (3) A person is practicing a licensed profession outside this state.
 - (4) A person is otherwise subject to circumstances that would preclude the person from satisfying the approved child and dependent adult abuse training in this state.

EXCEPTION: An orientation and mobility specialist is not eligible for any administrative license in either general education or special education.