



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 13, 2016

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Special Education Directors

FROM: Teri L. Chapman, Ed.S., Director
tlc
Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Certification of Orientation and Mobility Specialists

It has come to the attention of the Office of Special Education (OSE) there has been a question regarding an acceptable credential for an Orientation and Mobility Specialist employed in a Michigan school district. The OSE recognizes the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP) as the credentialing organization for all Orientation and Mobility Specialists. This is based on the Michigan Administrative Rule for Special Education, 340.1792.

R 340.1792 Licensure, certification, or approval of professional personnel.
Rule 92.

Professional personnel employed or contracted with to provide related services to students with disabilities shall be licensed, certificated, or registered by a governmental agency or a legally recognized professional board or association as an indication of adequate preparation and training, or be recommended by a college or university offering an appropriate training program as approved by the state board of education.

Michigan currently does not have a state license or certificate therefore a certificate from ACVREP, a recognized national professional organization, is what is required for all Orientation and Mobility Specialists working in school districts.

Please contact Roxanne Balfour, Education Specialist, balfourr@michigan.gov or phone 517-335-0468, if you have questions regarding the certification of Orientation and Mobility Specialists.

cc: Orientation and Mobility Specialists
Teachers of Students with Visual Impairment

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