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Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TSVI)

Students with visual impairments who are designated (E) that attend your school will have a TSVI collaborate with the school based team ([Eligibility Requirements](#)). The TSVI's primary role will be sharing with the team how a student's visual impairment impacts their learning and development. For example, TSVIs will identify areas of the student's conceptual background needed to both understand and access instruction in the classroom. This information helps all members of the team appreciate access issues the student's face at home, school, and within the community as well as how to plan and implement meaningful instruction for all students in their classroom.

TSVIs are district itinerant teachers who travel to students grades K-12 in schools within SD61. Students who are visually impaired and are designated (E) require a school-based inclusive education teacher who will co-case manage with the district itinerant TSVI. This shared approach allows for the student who is visually impaired to have a school-based inclusive education teacher in the building daily who understands the student's visual impairment, how it impacts the student's learning, access equipment, and is familiar with their IEP.

TSVIs provide a unique educational approach to support the full inclusion, access and development of students with visual impairments. This collaborative teaching approach varies with the student's needs, the school's needs and the team's needs. Some examples of the TSVI's role in schools:

- 1) A prescriptive/direct role with students that includes teaching and conducting assessments within the 9 areas of the [Expanded Core Curriculum](#) (ECC) to best support the student IEP.
- 2) A supportive/indirect role to provide support during critical learning periods, check progress, consult and/or collaborate with the classroom teacher, inclusive education teacher (LST), EAs, EABs, administration, district contracted service providers, community organizations and families.
- 3) A facilitative role to share information during meetings, share/interpret vision related assessment and evaluations, review new referral information, monitor students eye condition progression/eligibility, as well as observe students and offer suggestions to the school team.
- 4) An informative role to provide resources, student materials, in-services, arrange and invite Provincial Outreach for school/classroom visits, and train school staff to best support a student's full access to ensure the [BC Core Curriculum](#) is accessible to students with visual impairments.

School teams need to consider the district itinerant teacher and plan collaborative communication, schedule consultation time, and professional development when your team includes a TSVI support a student with a visual impairment. In addition to the classroom teacher, the TSVI will also work directly with EAs and EABs to support classrooms that include a student with a visual impairment.

2022-2023 TSVI team:

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