# Position Description

# Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Vision Australia, supporting people who are blind or have low vision to live the life they choose.

## Purpose of Position

The key purpose of this position, in consultation with the client, is to utilise knowledge and skills to provide assessment, training, intervention and service co-ordination to assist in achieving equity and access for people who are blind or have low vision. Orientation and Mobility (O&M) services are provided to clients of all ages, carers and families.

## Context

Vision Australia exists to support people who are blind or have low vision to live the life they choose. Vision Australia provides services to more than 25,500 people clients from 35 Vision Australia centres in Victoria, New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia; and through outreach programs in the Northern Territory and Tasmania.

## Principle Responsibilities

* Assess the ability of clients to travel safely and confidently within area of the community they wish to access;
* Advise on and prescribe a range of mobility aids and provide specialist services to meet individual needs;
* Monitor and advise on the use of low vision aids as applicable to a mobility program;
* In consultation with clients, plan, develop, deliver and evaluate individual or group specialised services in line with clients’ needs identified throughout the assessment process;
* As required, act as the Primary Service Provider to coordinate the provision of services internally to clients and families and to liaise with external service providers to achieve desired outcomes for clients.
* Identify, develop and review information and resources; promote and represent Vision Australia regarding O&M issues in relevant forums; develop and maintain internal and external networks. Provide professional development as appropriate to relevant parties.
* Monitor and maintain accurate, up to date client records in accordance with professional standards, Vision Australia policy and procedures and other relevant legislation including Disability Act.
* Continuous professional development including keeping up to date with new research and maintaining skills & knowledge level.
* Support student supervision and collaboration with learning institutions universities e.g. universities, peak bodies.
* Other duties as required by the Regional Manager.
* Assist with maintaining a high standard of safety at Vision Australia by following all safety procedures at all times and acting safely, not putting yourself or other people at risk by your actions or omissions. Ensure that all work performed is in accordance with Vision Australia policies & procedures.

## Key Performance Indicators

Key performance indicators will be clearly defined through the performance planning process.

## Essential Job Competencies

* Approved qualifications in O&M as recognised by Orientation and Mobility Association Australasia (OMAA);
* Knowledge and skills in working with children, adults and older adults.
* Experience in providing client support and O&M services in person and/or through other communication mediums.
* Training and intervention strategies for individuals and groups.
* Strong planning skills including sound time management skills.
* Well-developed analytical and problem solving skills.
* Ability to work as part of a team and independently as required.
* Ability in establishing and building positive working relationships at all levels.
* Excellent interpersonal and written communication skills.
* Computer literacy skills in Microsoft applications and the internet.
* Empathy and emotional maturity.
* Ability to adapt to changes in the work environment.
* An understanding of the impact of blindness and low vision (desirable).
* Experience working with families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (desirable).

## Organisational Values

The expectation that we set is that our workforce understands and models our values and behaviours in everything they do 100% of the time;

* Person-Centred - We measure our success in terms of outcomes for our clients;
* Accountable - We hold ourselves responsible for what we do and don’t do;
* Collaborative - We work well together and with others to deliver the best possible outcomes;
* Commercially Focussed - We work efficiently and responsibly to sustain and grow our services and influence;
* Agile - We will adapt, learn and innovate to have a positive impact in a changing environment.

## Vision Australia environment

Many Vision Australia employees work with Seeing Eye Dogs and all employees are likely to have contact with working dogs.

Employment is subject to the Organisation receiving a National Police Record Check and a Working with Children Check or QLD Blue Card or Vulnerable Persons (ACT) check.

## Role Scope

**Reports to: Regional Manager**

Direct Report Staff: 0

In-Direct Report Staff: 0

## Review of Job Description

This job description will be reviewed in line with the performance planning and appraisal process.

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