

ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST
(BOCES #2)

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Acts as a resource for adaptive/assistive technology for the Special Education Program; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under the direction of the program supervisor, the incumbent designs and fabricates original adaptive equipment and/or adapts commercially available equipment in order to give multi-handicapped students access to educational technology, primarily in the area of computers including both hardware and software.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Visits classrooms and evaluates students educational equipment needs; works directly with students and teachers to assess needs;

Designs methods to facilitate use of computers, adaptive peripherals and software by the handicapped, to meet specific educational purpose in classroom settings;

Adapts commercially obtained orthopedic and educational equipment;

Constructs newly designed adaptive equipment from appropriate materials based on recommendations of the teams;

Designs models for graphic symbol systems to be used in Augmentative Communication systems, and adapts existent graphic symbols for Augmentative Communication;

Designs and produces manuals, handbook, and newsletter - publication of the Technology Assessment Training Center;

Presents in demonstrations to BOCES staff/others, uses of Advanced Technology in Special Education;

Meets with, demonstrates, and advises classroom staff regarding educational strategies of Technology Assessment Training Center designs;

Acts as a resource for speech and language pathologists in their efforts to design picture communication systems;

Makes recommendations for the ordering of equipment, materials and supplies;

Evaluates product effectiveness cooperatively with interdisciplinary team composed of teacher, physical and/or occupational therapists;

Refines the design and construction of products;

Acts as a resource to the interdisciplinary team for the development of assistive technology.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of adaptive/assistive technology; good knowledge of educational software; good knowledge of desktop publishing systems; knowledge of personal computer hardware; ability to design and/or adapt educational equipment to meet educational goals; ability to train both teachers and students in the use of adaptive/assistive technology; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; resourcefulness; creativity; tact; physical condition commensurate with the duties of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and either (a) graduation from a recognized college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in either Education, Computer Science, Human Services or Liberal Arts and two (2) years experience in adaptive/assistive technology which must have included some experience with children in either an educational or rehabilitative setting; or (b) possession of a Master's Degree in one of the areas listed above and one (1) year of the specialized experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

In accordance with the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) legislation, Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, candidates for appointment in school districts must obtain clearance for employment from the State Education Department prior to employment based upon a fingerprint and criminal history background check.