

---

# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

---

**Assistant/Associate Professor for the Program for Teachers of Children with Visual Impairments/Orientation & Mobility for Children (OMC)  
Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies  
College of Health and Human Services**

Western Michigan University invites applications and nominations for a tenure track, academic year position of Assistant or Associate Professor in the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies.

**Major Responsibilities:**

- TCVI/OMC Program coordination/management
- Teaching graduate level courses
- Advising and mentoring graduate students
- Pursuing professional development including seeking grant external support and maintaining an active research, publication, and program development agenda
- Participating in program governance in the department, college and university
- Contributing to professional organizations at the local, state and national levels
- Supervising practica and professional fieldwork throughout the U.S.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Earned doctorate. Applicants who are ABD near completion will be considered.
- Certification or certifiability in Teaching Children with Visual Impairments (TCVI)
- Certification or certifiability in Orientation & Mobility from the Academy for the Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP)
- Three years of experience in teaching children and youth with visual impairments
- Research history or evidence of activity on a research agenda
- Experience supervising and instructing students at the graduate level
- Proven track record of working cooperatively on an interdisciplinary team
- Experience and expertise in teaching special education coursework, particularly basic skills and application of TCVI or OMC skills in teaching goal setting, interventions, and student assessment.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Experience and expertise in the areas of assistive/access technology, literary and Nemeth Braille code, Braille technology, and low vision (including functional vision assessment).

**The University:** Western Michigan University (WMU), located in Southwest Michigan, is a vibrant, nationally recognized student-centered research institution with an enrollment of nearly 25,000. WMU delivers high-quality undergraduate instruction, has a strong graduate division, and fosters significant research activities. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has placed WMU among the 76 public institutions in the nation designated as research universities with high research activities.

**The College:** The College of Health and Human Services is located in a new 195,000 square foot building with state-of-the-art teaching technologies and spacious research laboratories. The college enrolls over 2,200 students, with more than a third of those at the graduate level. In addition to blindness and low vision studies, the college includes programs in nursing, occupational therapy, physician assistant, social work, speech pathology and audiology, holistic health care, alcohol and drug abuse, interdisciplinary health services, and interdisciplinary health studies. The college has received a number of grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Department of Education. The college also operates the Unified Clinics, a multidisciplinary service/training clinic.

**Department:** The Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies has a long history of quality personnel preparation, research, and publishing activity. With ten full-time faculty, the department offers programs in Orientation and Mobility, Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (VRT), Rehabilitation Counseling/VRT and Teaching Children with Visual Impairments/O&M for Children. Students graduating from the O&M for Children program earn a Master of Arts degree and meet the requirements for certification by the Academy in O&M. The program has on-campus and distance learning components. There is opportunity to teach during the summer session for the on-campus instructional portion of the TCVI and OMC graduate programs.

**Salary:** Competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience, with an excellent benefits package.

**Expected Start Date:** August 2009

**Application Deadline:** February 28, 2009

**Required application documents:**

To be submitted online at [www.wmujobs.org](http://www.wmujobs.org)

Position number is: 5659

1. Faculty Credential Summary
2. Letter of application describing qualifications, accomplishments, and professional experiences related to the position
3. Current vita

Additionally required:

Three current letters of recommendation must be submitted online OR sent directly to: Susan Ponchillia, Chair TCVI/OMC Search Committee, Dept. of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, College of Health and Human Services, WMU, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5218  
Or e-mail to [susan.ponchillia@wmich.edu](mailto:susan.ponchillia@wmich.edu)

**Western Michigan University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer  
consistent with applicable federal and state law.  
All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply.**