



INTERVENER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

INTERVENER TRAINING

The primary sources for intervener training in the U.S. are online university-based programs and a number of state deaf-blind projects. Regardless of the training program, coursework is based on the [Council for Exceptional Children's \(CEC's\) intervener knowledge and skill competencies](#).

University-Based Training

Four universities currently offer online intervener training:

1. [Central Michigan University Deafblind Intervener Undergraduate Certificate](#) (can be accessed from anywhere)
2. [Utah State University Deafblind Intervener Training Certificate](#) (can be accessed from anywhere)
3. [Shawnee State University Intervener Certificate Program](#) (Ohio only)
4. [San Francisco State University Intervener Training](#) (can be accessed from anywhere)

State Deaf-Blind Project Training

Training provided by state deaf-blind projects uses the [Open Hands, Open Access Intervener Training Modules](#) and other resources. This can include face-to-face, virtual, and/or hybrid learning.

Check with your state deaf-blind project to find out if intervener training is offered in your state. For contact information, see this list of [state deaf-blind projects](#).

CERTIFICATION AND CREDENTIALING

Certification and credentialing of interveners is a growing trend in the U.S. for individuals who have completed an intervener training program and can demonstrate their attainment of the CEC knowledge and skill competencies. There are currently two methods: The National Intervener Certification E-Portfolio (NICE) and the National Intervener Credential.

National Intervener Certification E-Portfolio

NICE was developed by the National Center on Deaf-Blindness with input from state deaf-blind project personnel and other experts, and facilitated by the Paraprofessional Resource and Research Center ([PAR²A Center](#)).

Requirements

- Candidate has completed an intervener training program
- Candidate's readiness to begin the NICE portfolio process assessed by his or her state deaf-blind project
- Candidate and mentor have completed two NICE training modules
- Candidate must have at least three sessions (a total of six hours) to receive feedback and support from their mentor
- Candidate has completed an e-portfolio that includes artifacts and narratives to illustrate the attainment of [CEC Competencies](#)

National Intervener Credential

This credential is offered by the National Resource Center for Paraeducators (NRCP)

Requirements

- A minimum of ten hours of credit-based coursework from a university or college
- A practicum experience (minimum of two credit hours) under the course instructor's supervision and the guidance of a trained intervener coach (includes a minimum of 100 hours of contact time with a child who is deaf-blind and a minimum of three coaching sessions)
- A completed portfolio that documents the candidate's attainment of the [CEC Competencies](#)

ONGOING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

After their initial training, interveners must continue to participate in professional development opportunities. In particular, both the NICE Certification and the National Intervener Credential require that interveners be recertified every five years, a process that involves demonstrating, for example, continued knowledge, skill, and service development since the initial certification/credentialing or last recertification/credentialing.



To learn more, visit [Tools to Employ and Support Intervenors](#).

REFERENCES

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National Center on Deaf-Blindness, March 2022 | nationaldb.org

The contents of this publication were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H326T180026. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Susan Weigert.



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