

Education Director

Our Perkins Story

If you're looking for a chance to change the world for children and young adults with multiple disabilities and visual impairment, Perkins School for the Blind has opportunities for you. We're looking for energetic and talented individuals committed to helping people reach their full potential. Our work begins with students on our campus in Watertown, Massachusetts, but spans the globe with partnerships that help the world's most vulnerable children.

Education and accessibility are civil rights. Everybody's voice matters. And the world is a better place when everyone – including people with disabilities – participates. Helen Keller, Perkins' most famous deafblind student, championed these values nearly 100 years ago, and today Perkins is taking this inclusion worldwide.

About this Role:

As our Educational Director of our DeafBlind School program, you will oversee the design and implementation of educational services for students who are deafblind, including those with multiple disabilities. As a key member of a collaborative administrative team, you demonstrate knowledge and experience in best practice in the education of students who are deafblind. You keep up to date in research and thinking. You will lead the development and implementation of best practices in both the academic and residential programs. By providing strong leadership and supervision to teachers, related service providers, and staff, you will manage and facilitate staff development. Your ability to communicate with parents, employees, Local Education Authorities (LEAs), and other community members will also be a critical part of your role.

We would love to talk to you if you have experience in many of the following:

- You bring the proven ability to oversee the development and implementation of programming for students who are deafblind, including those with multiple disabilities, by working collaboratively with program teachers and staff to ensure students reach their maximum potential in areas of academic performance, vocational, social and independent living skills through integration of the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC).
- You are adept at overseeing the development, adaptation and implementation of curriculum aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework and the Expanded Core Curriculum; You will also assist in the coordination of the MCAS testing process.
- You maintain active engagement and visibility in the program by observing classrooms and lessons, as well as activities in the residential program. Through regular communication with teachers and staff, you ensure that the educational and residential programs and staff are compliant with all regulations promulgated by licensing authorities.
- You can work with Local Education Authorities (LEAs) in developing individual education programs (IEPs) and oversee the implementation of programs. You also

have the ability to participate in ISP's, Service Plan Reviews and Case Reviews. And when needed, facilitate the development of transition teams and plan and compile reports based on the students' IEP's.

- You have the ability to work collaboratively with the Deafblind Leadership Team to develop student programming and can also work with the residential team and Health Services to coordinate and support the programs for students.
- You have experience developing and managing program budgets by strategically allocating fiscal and human resources in alignment with the budget. You will also serve as representative of the program on various campus-wide program committees.
- You are adept at maintaining communication with students, parents, staff and other school departments. At the direction of the Superintendent, you will also serve as a liaison between districts, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and community members.
- You have had oversight of the development and implementation of systems to insure the safety and well-being of students and staff in the program.
- You are a strong leader who works collaboratively with members of the team in planning for professional development and training. You will also play a critical role in working with the supervisory team to screen applicants to hire qualified staff.
- You are also open to perform other related duties and tasks as assigned.

Core Competencies

To perform the job successfully, an individual should demonstrate the following competencies:

- Leadership – you have the demonstrated ability to lead, inspire and motivate others to perform well. You work collaboratively to unify stakeholders toward the shared vision and goals for the program. You maintain a program's visibility and ensure it is accessible to teachers and staff. You provide regular performance feedback and encourage growth while improving processes, products and services;
- Problem Solving - you know how to identify and collaboratively solve problems utilizing data to inform decisions
- Ethics/Judgment - you understand the need to maintain confidentiality. You treat people with respect and demonstrate professionalism working ethically with integrity and uphold organizational values. You exhibit sound and accurate judgment and utilize data and include appropriate people in the decision-making process.
- Planning/Organizing – you know how to prioritize plans and execute strategic work initiatives. You use time efficiently and develop realistic action plans.

Education and/or Experience

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university in Education and/or Leadership with concentration in visual impairment, deafblindness, or related field
- Teaching experience or related educational experience with children who are deafblind and/or visually impaired including a wide a range of functioning levels and ages
- Must have experience in a Supervisory or Leadership role
- Knowledge of best practice and current teaching techniques within the discipline

- Experience in staff training, curriculum development and consultation
- Prior experience in implementation of Special Education law, both on the state and federal level.

Certificates, Licenses, Registrations:

- Massachusetts DOE Licenser as Program Director, Principal or Special Education Director or willingness to obtain certification within two years required.

Benefits:

- Medical, Vision and Dental Coverage
- Tuition Reimbursement from Day One
- Employer Contributing Retirement Plan
- Ongoing Professional Development Opportunities
- 5 Minute Drive from Food & Entertainment at Arsenal Yards
- Cafeteria On-Site Several Days per Week
- Free Parking for Employees

We provide a complete benefits package that includes tuition reimbursement, medical and dental insurance, LTD and Life insurance, retirement programs and staff development and training. Perkins seeks to enhance its community of intellectually, culturally, and socially diverse individuals to enrich the educational experience of our students. Applicants from a multicultural background, are bilingual, and/or who have relevant life experience are encouraged to apply.

Contact

- To learn more about Perkins, please visit our website at: www.perkins.org
- To apply for this position, please email your resume and cover letter to:
 - Karen D'Agostino, Director Talent Acquisition - karen.dagostino@perkins.org