R7-2-615.01 Special Education Endorsements

**D.** Deaf/Hard of Hearing Endorsement

1. The endorsement authorizes the holder to teach students who are deaf or hard of hearing from birth through grade 12.

2. The requirements are:

a. A valid Standard Professional Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities, Early Childhood Special Education, Specialized Special Education, Cross-Categorical Special Education, or Visually Impaired teaching certificate.

b. Three years of full-time teaching experience in preschool through grade 12.

c. Six semester hours of special education courses to include all of the following:

i. Special education law and individualized education program planning;

ii. Behavior management for students with disabilities

iii. The use of instructional and assistive technologies in the classroom.

d. Fifteen semester hours of courses in deaf/hard of hearing education that adhere to a guidance document approved by the Board and include all of the following:

i. Methods for facilitating language acquisition and literacy development in children who are deaf or hard of hearing;

ii. Auditory skill development for students who are deaf or hard of hearing;

iii. Assessment of students who are deaf or hard of hearing;

iv. Principles of audiology;

v. Social and cultural foundations and family involvement for students who are deaf/hard of hearing;

vi. Early intervention and parental involvement to enhance the early language skills of students who are deaf or hard of hearing

vii. Methods for teaching students who are deaf or hard of hearing with multiple disabilities, including deaf-blindness.

e. Completion of at least 90 clock hours of supervised practicum in teaching students who are deaf/hard of hearing, which may be included in the courses listed under subsection (2)(c) or (2)(d).

f. American Sign Language learning experience documented by one of the following:

i. A passing score on an American Sign Language proficiency assessment approved by the Board. An applicant who meets the requirement in this subsection under this option shall qualify for a deaf/hard of hearing endorsement with an American Sign Language proficiency designation; or

ii. Verification of proficiency in American Sign Language from an accredited institution; or

iii. Completion of six semester hours of courses in American Sign Language.

**E.** Visually Impaired Endorsement

1. The endorsement authorizes the holder to teach students who are blind or visually impaired in birth through grade 12.

2. The requirements are:

a. A valid Standard Professional Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle Grades, Secondary, Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities, Early Childhood Special Education, Specialized Special Education, Cross-Categorical Special Education, or Hearing Impaired teaching certificate.

b. Three years of full-time teaching experience in preschool through grade 12.

c. Six semester hours of special education courses to include all of the following:

i. Special education law and individualized education program planning

ii. Behavior management for students with disabilities;

iii. The use of instructional and assistive technologies in the classroom.

d. Fifteen semester hours of courses in visually impaired special education that adhere to a guidance document approved by the Board and include all of the following:

i. Instructional approaches for teaching students who have vision impairments;

ii. Methods for facilitating literacy development in children who are blind or low vision;

iii. Assistive technologies for students with vision impairments;

iv. Assessment of students with vision impairment;

v. Early intervention and parental involvement to enhance early skills of students with vision impairment;

vi. Anatomy and physiology of the eye;

vii. Methods for teaching orientation and mobility to students who have visual impairments.

viii. Methods for teaching students who have visual impairments with multiple disabilities, including deaf-blindness.

e. Completion of a minimum of 90 clock hours of supervised practicum in teaching students who have visual impairments, which may be included in the courses listed under subsection (2)(c) or (2)(d).

f. Proficiency in Braille verified by one of the following:

i. Successful completion of a nationally validated braille test approved by the Board; or

ii. Successful completion of a braille test developed in the program in visual impairment at the University of Arizona.