

COMPETENCY BASED VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Visually impaired or low vision children are equally capable to learn the various subjects in the area of Computer and Information Technology. However some in some areas like multimedia and wherever the artistic design involves it becomes difficult to give the more accurate output by the visually impaired learner. This is the only difference between the visually impaired and other normal site learner. The additional component to be required by the visually impaired learner is keyboard orientation. He has to use keyboard to do everything and avoid using the mouse. The materials developed for them should be usable with ANY screen magnification, speech output or Braille display software or hardware. The present curriculum on "Information Technology" was developed to make the visually impaired children employable in the area of Information Technology. The skills and techniques required to perform a job is covered in this curriculum. The curriculum offers various modules as per the requirement. The visually impaired students uses Screen Reader software application reads information displayed on a computer monitor screen. The screen reader reads text within a document, and it also reads information within dialog boxes and error messages. Screen Readers also read menu selections, graphical icons on the desktop. Screen Magnification software enlarges the viewing area of a computer monitor display. Magnification levels are measured in power levels. Such has 2x (2 power), and can go as high a level as 16x magnification. There are software applications that have features that include screen magnification, screen reader, and text reader. There are Screen Magnification for Low Vision persons like ZoomText Xtra Level 2, Supernova, MAGic v8.0. There are some applications that use a flatbed scanner and software called OCR (Optical Character Recognition) for inputting printed (hard copy) information into the computer to be read and/or magnified using the software applications. Text readers primarily read text as it is keyboarded, and reads text within documents such as e-mails, word processing documents, and other electronic text format. These types of software applications are more likely to be used by people with learning disabilities, people with poor reading abilities.

WAGE EMPLOYMENT

Computer Support Personnel
Network Support Personnel
Web developer (programmer)
Web Site Support Personnel
Internet/ Cyber Café Assistant
Assistant Application/Junior Programmer
IT Sales Personnel
IT Instructor

SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Computer Job Works
Internet/Cyber Café
Web Site development centre
Software development and maintenance
Computer sales and distribution
Computer training center

Class XI, Semester I: *Module I:* Introduction to IT
Module II: Ms Office Tools
Module III: Introduction to Computer Networks and Internet

Class XI, Semester II: *Module IV:* Network Operating Systems: Windows NT
Module V: Introduction to Linux
Module VI: Problem solving techniques
Module VII: Object oriented programming in C++
Module VIII: Project work in C++

Class XII, Semester I: *Module IX:* Web Design Tools – HTML and DHTML
Module X: Web Design Tools – VB Script
Module XI: Web Design Tools – JavaScript
Module XII: RDBMS Concepts and Ms-Access

Class XII, Semester II: *Module XIII:* Programming in Visual Basic
Module XIV: Active Server Pages
Module XV: Project work