



The Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) Field Services Department collaborates with both KSDE and the TASN Coordination project to recruit and train **Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI)** and **Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMS)**. This includes KSSB providing pre-service mentoring and onsite support to participants in training. Additionally, participants complete an immersion experience at KSSB, which fulfills the student teaching and/or internship requirements of their program. The TASN grant offsets tuition and fees, books, and some travel while participants are attending the out-of-state, graduate-level teacher preparation programs.

TVI / COMS TRAINING

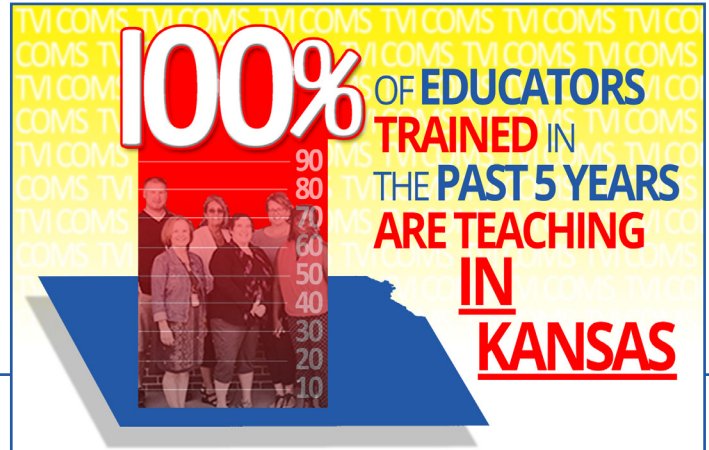
The Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments & Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists Preparation and Mentorship project supports the training of licensed teachers to be endorsed as a TVI or individuals with a bachelor's degree to become COMS. Along with grant funding, when the participants have completed their program of study and earned their endorsement and/or certification, the Kansas TVI/COMS Preparation and Mentorship project assists them

to enroll for up to three years of additional support through the TASN Kansas Early Career Special Educator Mentoring program (eMSS). The TVI/COMS training began in 2007 and is in its 10th year of operation. TVI training is provided through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Missouri State University. COMS and/or COMS/TVI (dual-certified)

"I appreciate being part of the training program for TVI/COMS. This will enable me to serve the students in my rural areas, with high qualifications."

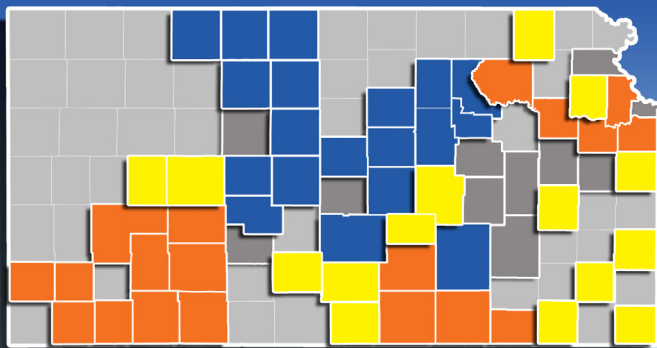
training is provided through Texas Tech University.

To date, 25 individuals have completed the program and 20 are currently in training; one is on track to complete their endorsement in the summer of 2017, 12 are on track



to complete within the 2017-18 school year, three within the 2018-19 school year, and four within the 2019-20 school year. All of the 15 individuals who completed the program throughout the 2012-17 State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) are still working as TVI/COMS in Kansas. All 15 of these individuals also participated in the eMSS program during or after completion of their TVI/COMS training. Of the 10 individuals who completed the program within the previous five-year SPDG cycle, all are still working as TVI/COMS in Kansas with the exception of one retiree and one participant who passed away. Learn more about the program at <http://www.ksdetasn.org/tvi>.

COUNTIES SERVED BY PROJECT-TRAINED TVI / COMS



● TVI ● COMS ● BOTH TVI & COMS ● IN TRAINING

"The opportunity that this grant provided me with has been life changing. Special education was an area I had never considered during my 14 years of teaching. Although the TVI and COMS programs required a lot of time and hard work, I have ended up with a job I love. I have found 'my place' in the field of education! I am honored to be a part of these students' lives and a part of this amazing profession. Thank you for the opportunity and the incredible amount of support!"

MORE INFORMATION AT:
WWW.KSDETASN.ORG/TVI