

Kansas School for the Deaf

TO ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS WE SERVE ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IN A LANGUAGE-RICH ENVIRONMENT



Join Us as a Deaf Mentor!

- Applications accepted through Wednesday, May 8, 2024
- Virtual interviews will take place on May 13, 2024, or May 16, 2024
- If selected, 3 days of required training will take place from June, 27 – 29, 2024

JOB DESCRIPTION: The role of a Deaf Mentor is to demonstrate and teach early sign language and natural communication strategies using American Sign Language (ASL) to parent(s), families, and legal guardian(s). This position performs under the supervision of a Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD) Deaf Mentor Coordinator and is a part of the KSD Outreach Department. A Deaf Mentor shares their experiences as a Deaf or Hard of Hearing individual, including growing up and their career and work experiences. Supporting families in making connections within the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community to foster positive self-identity for their child is an integral part of this role. During home visits, a Deaf Mentor will focus on five specific areas, Language and Communication; Making the Child's World Accessible; Deaf Culture; Literacy; and Building Community for the Child and Family.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities of a Deaf Mentor:

- Provide families who have chosen visual communication as a primary mode of communication with access to adults who have grown up Deaf and who can provide families with exposure to and opportunities for learning sign language to communicate with their child.
- Uses Deaf Mentor Curriculum provided through the SKI*HI Institutes as a platform and guide to services using different platforms with families (e.g., in-person, hybrid approach, and virtual platforms).
- Assist families in creating an accessible visual environment through language development and communication facilitation.
- Develop materials and resources to support the program.
- Work independently and use appropriate judgment to fulfill duties; work is reviewed for general technical accuracy, conclusions, and compliance.
- Adhere to all federal, state, and school legal requirements and policies.
- Work closely with a Deaf Mentor Coordinator with some supervision, mentoring, and technical assistance from the Sound START Team.
- Use critical thinking and administrative analytical skills to evaluate and apply complex program elements and challenges, including but not limited to sensitivity, respect, honoring appropriate boundaries, and the ability to teach and model ASL.
- Submit weekly reporting session notes using Google Forms.



- Works primarily in the regional part of the state where the Deaf Mentor resides; travel is required to service families at their homes for visits.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- A Deaf or Hard of Hearing individual who preferably has a Bachelor's degree; previous experience in teaching language to families of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or previous successful experience in being a Deaf Mentor may be acceptable for candidates who do not possess a Bachelor's degree.
- The ability to appropriately support families from diverse backgrounds, cultural, and ethnic groups without judgment or bias.
- Possesses successful and effective written and receptive, expressive ASL interpersonal skills.
- Be able to work independently and productively.
- Willing to accept supervision and accept positive and constructive feedback.
- Maintain standards of confidentiality.
- Knowledge of communication opportunities, technology, and philosophies prevalent in the field of deafness.
- Ability to complete all required paperwork and meet other identified protocols on time.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: All offers of employment from Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD) are contingent upon background check results and any applicable workplace references. Background checks are completed via the KS Bureau of Investigation, Backgrounds Plus consents, Kansas Department of Children and Family Services, and Dru Sjodin National Sexual Offender Registry. KSD may contact previous employers for workplace references. **Within 30 days of employment, a tuberculosis test (and any applicable treatment), as well as a health certificate must be completed by a medical provider at the cost of the employee.**

APPLICATION: Open Until Filled. For consideration, navigate to our website at www.ksdeaf.org/Employment and apply; copies of all college transcripts and licenses will be required.

CONTACT: Lorelee Plummer with the KSD Outreach Department
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**TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS
KSD AND KSSB EMBRACE DIVERSITY
UPDATED 04/12/2024**

