**Apply Now for Hybrid Training!**

**Virginia VI Training Project-2020**

**For Educators Working with Young Children, Ages 2 – 6 Years, with Vision Impairment**

**August 18, 2020 – November 6, 2020**

After reading the information below, interested individuals should apply to be considered for selection at: [[**https://forms.gle/VAfhB7hU8mRxBa6U9**](https://forms.gle/VAfhB7hU8mRxBa6U9)](https://forms.gle/VAfhB7hU8mRxBa6U9)

(The deadline for submitting this application is June 8, 2020.)

**Description of Training:** The Virginia Vision Impairment Training Project-2020 (VA VITP-2020) is a unique professional development opportunity for selected Virginia educators and related service providers who will work with young children (ages 2-6 years) with vision impairments in Virginia public school special education programs during the 2020-2021 school year. This training project is supported with federal IDEA grant funding through the collaboration of the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind Outreach Services, the Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired, and the Virginia Project for Children and Young Adults with Deaf-Blindness.

The VA VITP-2020 incorporates the **V**ision **I**mpaired **I**n-**S**ervice in **A**merica (VIISA) Curriculum, which introduces strategies, tools, and resources that can be used effectively to meet the highly specialized needs of young children with vision impairments. Please review the entire syllabusfor an overview of the complete series of topics that will be covered.

The training sessions will be conducted online by three VIISA curriculum-trained Virginia educators for approximately 11 weeks, beginning August 18, 2020 through November 6, 2020. The virtual training sessions will occur weekly on Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. In addition, approximately seven hours of on-site training will be scheduled with participants at designated Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired Regional Offices.**\***

Before applying, interested applicants should obtain pre-approval from their designated school division supervisor to ensure full participation in each of the training sessions.

The VA VITP-2020 training sessions will be provided at no cost to the participants. In addition, each participating school division will receive a copy of the complete two volume VIISA Curriculum. Upon successful completion of the training, participants will receive a certificate verifying their participation for 40 professional development contact hours.

Participation will be limited and diverse geographic and professional discipline representation will be considered in the selection process. Applicants will be informed of their confirmed seat, or placement on a wait list, by June 30, 2020. Please direct any questions to Caren Phipps at [caren.phipps@dbvi.virginia.gov](mailto:caren.phipps@dbvi.virginia.gov).

**\*NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the requirements for direct in-person contact with adults/children for the follow-up activities and the on-site sessions may be modified, as necessary.**