

# Online Training Program in Deafblindness

## Deafblind Intervener Training Program

An Intervener Training Program is available online through Utah State University. Based on the National CEC Intervener Competencies, the courses are designed to prepare students to work as interveners with children and youth who are deafblind. Students must complete the three courses listed below and taken in order. Upon successful completion of the three courses the student may apply for the National Intervener Credential to be an Intervener Specialist for the Deafblind (ISDB).

### Course 1: Introduction to Deafblindness

This course is an introduction to deafblindness and its impact on learning and development. It is an overview of the sensory systems and the issues that arise when an individual has a combined loss of vision and hearing. Emphasis is on the unique needs of the individual with deafblindness and on effective intervention strategies.

### Course 2: Combined Vision and Hearing Loss

This course focuses on communication, language, and literacy for individuals with combined vision and hearing loss. It also addresses issues related to sensory functioning and integration, orientation and mobility, and self-determination. Emphasis is on the application of effective intervention strategies for individuals with deafblindness.

### Course 3: Intervener Practicum

This course is designed to give students on-site experiences as an intervener working one-to-one with an individual who is deafblind. During the practicum, interveners receive support and guidance from an intervener coach and complete a portfolio which demonstrates their knowledge and skills in deafblindness.

#### Textbook Information:

- 1) *Understanding Deafblindness: Issues, Perspectives, and Strategies*. This two-volume curriculum can be ordered from HOPE Inc. at (435) 770-4395 or online at [www.hopepubl.com](http://www.hopepubl.com).
- 2) *Interveners in the Classroom*. This booklet can be ordered through SKI-HI Institute at Utah State University by contacting Jean Daddow at [jean.daddow@usu.edu](mailto:jean.daddow@usu.edu).



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## **Cost Information:**

Cost per course is \$750.00. Upon successful completion of each course, a Certificate of Achievement will be awarded along with 60 CE's from the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP) and 6 CEU's through the National Intervener and Advocate Association (NIAA). University credit and transcripts are not provided.

## **Semester Dates:**

Spring semester runs from the 2nd week of January through the end of April. Summer semester runs the first week of May through mid-August. Fall semester runs from the end of August through the middle of December. Exact current semester and registration dates available upon request. Course 3 (Intervener Practicum) is not offered in the Summer.

## **Registration information:**

1. Go to <https://deafblind.learn.usu.edu>.
2. Select a course (courses must be taken in order, i.e., Course 1, Course 2, followed by Course 3). Register for only one course at a time.
3. Select "Enroll" or "Add to Cart."
4. Complete the "Create an Account" information and select "Register New Account."
5. Select the Shopping Cart icon in the upper right and select "Checkout."
6. Select "Pay and Enroll" (all payments are made through PayPal).
7. Enter Payment information and create an account.
8. The Student Dashboard providing access to the course will be available the day classes begin at [deafblind.learn.usu.edu](https://deafblind.learn.usu.edu).

## **Instructor:**

Linda Alsop is the Director of Deafblind Programs at the SKI-HI Institute under the Institute for Disability Research, Practice and Policies at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. She has extensive experience working directly with children with deafblindness and their families. As the instructor for this intervener training program, she has been training interveners across the country for the past 15 years. She is actively involved in national efforts to establish interveners as related service providers under IDEA.

For more information, contact Linda Alsop at [linda.alsop@usu.edu](mailto:linda.alsop@usu.edu)  
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