CATIS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Category 1

A. University/College Degree Program in Assistive Technology for the Blind/Visually Impaired
   1. University/college bachelors or higher degree in Assistive Technology for the Blind/Visually Impaired (or equivalent foreign degree or diploma as verified by a NACES organization)
   2. 350 hour internship (See Internship Requirements on page 19) (may include Off-Site CATIS Supervision)

   Documentation required:
   1. Original transcript from your educational institution(s)
   2. ACVREP CATIS Clinical Competency Evaluation Form signed by a CATIS
   3. Offsite Supervision Form if applicable

B. University Certificate Program in Assistive Technology for the Blind/Visually Impaired
   1. Education Requirement (any of the following)
      a. University/college bachelors in any field combined with a graduate degree in vision studies (or equivalent foreign degree or diploma as verified by a NACES organization)
      b. A licensed or certified TVI
      c. Certification in COMS, CVRT or CLVT
   2. University Certificate Program in Assistive Technology for the Blind/Visually Impaired
   3. 350 hour internship (See Internship Requirements on page 19) (may include Off-Site CATIS Supervision)

   Documentation required:
   1. Original transcripts from your educational institution(s) for the bachelors or equivalent and proof of completion of the Certificate program
   2. Core Domain Education Checklist
   3. ACVREP CATIS Clinical Competency Evaluation Form signed by a CATIS
   4. Offsite Supervision form if applicable
Category 2

1. In this Category candidates MUST meet both the educational and work experience requirements for ONE of the combinations listed below. You are eligible if you meet any one of the combined requirements below.

2. Additionally, you must complete a 350 hour internship. This may be done at the place of your current employment [with Off-Site CATIS Supervision if needed]. **This internship may be completed as the last 350 hours of your required work experience requirement.** (See Internship Requirements on page 19)

Category 2 Educational and Work Experience Requirement:

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<tr>
<td>Master’s degree with an emphasis in vision studies including TVI, VRT, LVT, O&amp;M</td>
<td>Post-secondary credit hours of AT education or technical training equal to no less than 30 contact hours</td>
<td>15 post -secondary contact hours</td>
<td>1,000 hours in the most recent 3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s degree in Special Education or Rehabilitation with no emphasis in vision studies</td>
<td>Post-secondary credit hours of AT education or technical training equal to no less than 45 contact hours</td>
<td>15 post -secondary contact hours</td>
<td>1,500 hours in the most recent 3 years</td>
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<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher in any other field</td>
<td>Post-secondary credit hours of AT education or technical training equal to no less than 60 contact hours</td>
<td>15 post -secondary contact hours</td>
<td>2,000 hours in the most recent 3 years</td>
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<td>For a limited time until closed by ACVREP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associates degree or 2 or 3 year post secondary degree</td>
<td>Post-secondary credit hours of AT education or technical training equal to no less than 90 contact hours</td>
<td>15 post -secondary contact hours</td>
<td>9,000 hours in the most recent 8 years</td>
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<td>High School diploma</td>
<td>Post-secondary credit hours of AT education or technical training equal to no less than 120 contact hours</td>
<td>15 post -secondary contact hours</td>
<td>12,000 hours in the most recent 10 years</td>
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Category 2 Eligibility Criteria Definitions:

(1) **AT Education/Technical Training in Assistive Technology for individuals who are blind/visually impaired:**

This consists of education, courses, or classes that are focused on a blindness related assistive technology such as a specific screen reader, screen magnification, refreshable braille device, or blindness specific OCR software, as well as any speech, refreshable braille or large print dedicated standalone device, or similar software for desktop, laptop or mobile solution, including braille translation software and embossing devices.

This education and training may be completed within your degree program or outside of your degree program as additional education and training.
Contact hours are computed as follows:

a. 1 semester credit hour = 15 contact hours
b. 1 trimester credit hour = 14 contact hours
c. 1 quarter credit hour = 10 contact hours

(2) General Technical Training

Technical training consists of post-secondary education, courses, or classes specific to mainstream hardware and/or software such as a word processing course or any CompTIA (Computer Technology Industry Association) certification.

Contact hours are computed as follows:

a. 1 semester credit hour = 15 contact hours
b. 1 trimester credit hour = 14 contact hours
c. 1 quarter credit hour = 10 contact hours

(3) Direct work experience providing assistive technology evaluation and training to individuals who are visually impaired

Direct consumer related services in Assistive Technology are defined as those services that are provided in-person to consumers and others related to or working with consumers. Work must be remunerated (does not include pre-professional training) and the total time required must have been gained within most recent applicable years based on the degree under which you are applying.

It may include the following:

1. Evaluations, assessments, and other direct-to-consumer/student services
2. Implementation and training for consumers and/or students
3. Limited training provided to caregivers, support personnel, teacher’s aides, TVIs, etc. in some instances as reinforcement of training being provided by CATIS (not to exceed 5% of total time)
4. Time spent preparing and writing assessment/instructional reports not to exceed 10% of total time
5. Time spent in staffing and interdisciplinary meetings not to exceed 5% of total time

Expressly excluded from Direct Service include the following:

1. Administrative tasks and paperwork processing such as scheduling, ordering technology, billing and collection related tasks.
2. Instruction and Research that does not include consumer contact

Category 2 Documentation Required:

1. Official transcripts documenting all education and technical training – documentation will be reviewed for conformity to guidelines
2. Core Domain Area Education Checklist
3. Work experience verification
   a. For employees, a letter(s) in the form provided as [Appendix C] from your place of employment (s) on their letterhead stating the cumulative hours of direct professional service while in their employment. Total hours verified must equal the hours required based on your educational background, and reflect the appropriate approved percentages of services provided
   b. For Independent Contractors either copies of contracts that verify hours supplied, invoices paid or letter(s) from the contract parties verifying direct service hours provided to their clients
4. ACVREP CATIS Clinical Competency Evaluation Form signed by a CATIS
5. Offsite CATIS Supervision form, if applicable. This form must be submitted to ACVREP for approval prior to the start of the internship.

Category 3

1. High School Degree or higher plus completion of a post-secondary comprehensive ATBVI technical education and training program, lasting at least one year, that covers all of the CATIS Body of Knowledge education and CATIS Applied Competencies skills training.

2. 1,500 hours of Direct Work Experience providing assistive technology evaluation and training to individuals who are blind or have low vision. [The 350 internship hours may be counted as part of the 1,500 hours].

Direct consumer related services in Assistive Technology are defined as those services that are provided in-person to consumers and others related to or working with consumers. Work must be remunerated (does not include pre-professional training) and the total time required must have been gained within most recent applicable years based on the degree under which you are applying.

It may include the following:

- a. Evaluations, assessments, and other direct-to-consumer/student services
- b. Implementation and training for consumers and/or students
- c. Limited training provided to caregivers, support personnel, teacher's aides, TVIs, etc. in some instances as reinforcement of training being provided by CATIS (not to exceed 5% of total time)
- d. Time spent preparing and writing assessment/instructional reports not to exceed 10% of total time
- e. Time spent in staffing and interdisciplinary meetings not to exceed 5% of total time

Expressly excluded from Direct Service include the following:

- a. Administrative tasks and paperwork processing such as scheduling, ordering technology, billing and collection related tasks.
- b. Instruction and Research that does not include consumer contact

Category 3 Documentation Required:

1. Copy of Certificate of Completion of the technical training program including documentation of the coursework and duration of the program.

2. Core Domain Area Checklist

3. Clinical Competency Evaluation Form signed by a CATIS

4. Offsite Internship Supervisor Form, if applicable

5. Employer(s) Direct Service Hours Form

Internship Requirements for Category 1, 2 and 3:

Internship must be supervised by a CATIS either onsite or off-site. Off-site Supervision form must be submitted to ACVREP for approval prior to the start of the internship.
1. Total Internship hours of 350

2. 280 hours of the Internship must be Direct Service that may include the following:
   a. Evaluations, assessments, and other direct-to-consumer/student services
   b. Implementation and training for consumers and/or students
   c. Limited training provided to caregivers, support personnel, teacher’s aides, TVIs, etc. in
      some instances as reinforcement of training being provided by CATIS (not to exceed 5% of
      total time)
   d. Time spent preparing and writing assessment/instructional reports not to exceed 10% of total
      time
   e. Time spent in staffing and interdisciplinary meetings not to exceed 5% of total time

**Expressly excluded from Direct Service** include the following:
   a. Administrative tasks and paperwork processing such as scheduling, ordering technology,
      billing and collection related tasks.
   b. Instruction and Research that does not include consumer contact