



OFFICE OF P-12 EDUCATION: Office of Special Education
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To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Schools
Principals of Public, Nonpublic and Charter Schools
Organizations, Parents and Individuals Concerned with Special Education
Superintendents of State-Operated and State-Supported Schools
Executive Directors of Approved Private Schools
New York City Department of Education
Commissioner's Advisory Panel for Special Education Services
Community Dispute Resolution Centers
Regional Special Education Technical Assistance Support Centers
Special Education Parent Centers
Institutes of Higher Education
Other State Agencies

From: James P. DeLorenzo

Subject: Intensive Teacher Institute for Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired

The P-12: Office of Special Education of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) is pleased to announce the establishment of the Intensive Teacher Institute for Teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired (ITI-TVI). There are two institutions of higher education housing the ITI-TVI: City University of New York (CUNY) Hunter College and Dominican College.

New York is facing a critical shortage of TVIs across the State. To address the need for more TVIs, the ITI-TVI is designed to provide tuition assistance to students and teachers interested in becoming TVIs, and who are willing to serve as TVIs in NYS for two years following completion of the program. CUNY Hunter College and Dominican College each offer programs leading to certification as a TVI, and CUNY Hunter College offers additional certification as an orientation and mobility specialist (OMS).

If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the program at either college, please see the following websites:

- CUNY Hunter College: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/school-of-education/programs/graduate/special-education/blind-visually-impaired>
- Dominican College: <http://dc.edu/academics.aspx?id=4948>, or to review the program brochure please see http://www.4dcinfo.com/images/pdf/tvi_brochure.pdf

Questions relating to this memorandum may be directed to SPECED@mail.nysed.gov or by calling Ms. Sophie McDermott at 518-486-7462. To ensure dissemination to appropriate individuals within a school district, I ask Superintendents to please share this memorandum with individuals such as Directors of Special Education, School Psychologists, Guidance Counselors, Directors of Pupil Personnel and Parent Teacher Associations.

*Please note:

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