

Hybrid VIISA Certification

October 2026- March 2027

Participants will meet virtually approximately once a month as well as twice in-person. The two, two-day in-person sessions will take place in Nashville, TN.



WHAT IT IS

Project VIISA (Vision Impaired In-Service America) began in 1990 to meet the unique needs of young children with blindness or vision impairment and their families. This VIISA training course is a professional development opportunity to expand your knowledge of working with blind or visually impaired infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers in early intervention home- and community-based settings.

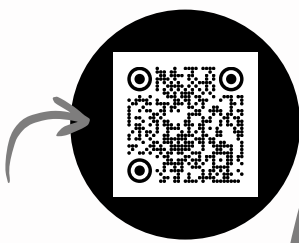
WHAT IT ISN'T

VIISA training and certification does not replace the need for a Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI) on a child's IFSP team, and does not provide participants with the credentials or specialized course-work required to serve as a vision services provider.

OPEN TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS

VIISA training and certification is open to the following individuals that work with or would like to work with families of young children aged birth-to-six years old with blindness or visual impairment:

- Teachers of the Visually Impaired
- Orientation and Mobility Specialists
- Early Interventionists
- Related-Service Providers (such as OT, PT, SLP)
- Preschool Teachers/Administrators



REGISTER NOW

SCHEDULE

*All virtual sessions will be 3pm-6pm CT
All in-person sessions will be 8:30am-4:30 pm*

- October 1st (virtual)
- November 4th and 5th (in person)
- December 1st (virtual)
- January 7th (virtual)
- February 3rd and 4th (in person)
- March 4th (virtual)

COST

A registration fee of \$300 covers training materials for “make-it, take-it” activities and lunch for in-person meetings. A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact us for details.

TRAINING GOALS

The goal of this training is for participants to gain an understanding of and to develop skills in the unique needs of infants, toddlers and preschoolers who are blind and visually impaired and their families. This includes working with families and other service providers, things to consider when assessing developmental skills and developing IFSPs and IEPs, needed support services, intervention techniques and resource materials to use in all developmental areas (communication, social, daily care, motor, orientation and mobility, play, cognition and early literacy), developing use of all the senses (in particular vision, touch, and hearing), sensory processing challenges, special needs of infants and toddlers with vision impairment and additional disabilities/medical problems, and supporting transitions.

A Participant Home Study manual in electronic format with units containing assignments with readings will be provided. Five assignments will be required, some of which are reactions to readings and others which are to be done directly with children, if possible. Content and skills will be shared through lecture/PowerPoints, videoclips, discussions, small breakout rooms, observation and application, hands-on experiences and short take-it make-it activities with materials mailed ahead to each participant.