

Attachment A

Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

Orientation and Mobility (O&M) services teach an individual with vision impairment or legal blindness how to move or travel safely and independently in his/her home and community. This service includes: (a) an O&M assessment of an individual's needs; (b) training and education provided to Consumers; (c) environmental evaluations; (d) caregiver/direct care staff training on sensitivity to blindness/low vision; and, (e) information and resources on community living for persons with vision impairment or legal blindness. O&M Services are tailored to the individual's need and may extend beyond the home setting to other community settings as well as public transportation systems.

Individual providers and individuals employed by the agency providing O&M Services, known as Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists, or COMS, must have a master's degree in special education with a specialty in orientation and mobility or a bachelor's degree with a certificate in orientation and mobility from an ACVREP (Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals) certified university program.

This service is available only to Consumers who are not eligible for O&M through the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind.