

Job Description: Special Education Teacher

Position Overview:

A Special Education Teacher plays a critical role in the education and development of students with diverse learning needs. They are responsible for creating and implementing individualized education plans (IEPs) to support students with disabilities or special needs in achieving academic, social, emotional, and behavioral success. The Special Education Teacher collaborates with other educators, specialists, parents, and caregivers to ensure the provision of appropriate accommodations and modifications, as well as the delivery of effective instruction tailored to each student's unique strengths and challenges.

Key Responsibilities:

- Develop Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) in collaboration with students, parents/guardians, other educators, and relevant specialists, ensuring alignment with state standards and educational goals.
- Provide differentiated instruction and tailored interventions to address the diverse learning needs, abilities, and preferences of students with disabilities or special needs.
- Utilize a variety of instructional strategies, techniques, and materials to facilitate student engagement, comprehension, and mastery of academic content across various subject areas (e.g., reading, mathematics, science, and social studies).
- Implement behavior management strategies and positive reinforcement techniques to foster a supportive and inclusive learning environment conducive to student growth, independence, and self-regulation.
- Assess student progress regularly through formal and informal methods, such as standardized assessments, observations, portfolio reviews, and progress monitoring tools, and use data to inform instructional planning and decision-making.
- Collaborate with general education teachers, specialists (e.g., speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists), and support staff to coordinate services, accommodations, and modifications to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities in inclusive classroom settings.
- Provide ongoing support, coaching, and professional development opportunities for paraprofessionals and other staff members assisting in the delivery of special education services.

- Communicate regularly and effectively with parents/guardians regarding student progress, goals, strategies, and resources, fostering positive partnerships and collaboration in support of student success.
- Participate in Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, multidisciplinary team meetings, parent conferences, and other collaborative planning sessions to review student progress, set goals, and adjust instructional plans as needed.
- Stay current with best practices, research-based interventions, and legal requirements related to special education, advocating for the rights and needs of students with disabilities within the school community and broader educational system.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree.
- Valid Texas teaching certification in Special Education.
- Specialized training or certification in areas such as behavior management, autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, or assistive technology may be preferred or required.
- Demonstrated experience working with students with disabilities or special needs in an educational setting, including knowledge of diverse instructional strategies, accommodations, and modifications.
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and collaboration skills, with the ability to build positive relationships with students, parents, colleagues, and stakeholders.
- Commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, with a passion for advocating for the educational rights and needs of students with disabilities.
- Ability to adapt to changing circumstances, manage multiple priorities, and remain flexible and resilient in a dynamic educational environment.
- Compliance with all state and federal regulations governing special education services, including knowledge of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) guidelines.