

Job Title:Inclusive Education SpecialistReports to:Teacher Center CoordinatorDays:240Position Type:Full-time (this is a grant-funded position)

Primary Purpose

Long-standing inequities have driven poor educational outcomes for students with disabilities. With this in mind, <u>SPED</u> <u>Strategies</u> and <u>Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative</u> are on a mission to foster enduring change through meaningfully designed professional learning for school systems, leaders and educators. We are launching a three year initiative to pilot an approach to advancing Inclusive Education in Northwest Arkansas, with the goal of producing proof points from which to scale out inclusion focused initiatives across Arkansas. We are seeking an **Inclusive Education Specialist** to sustain existing, while working closely with our teams to cultivate new partnerships that drive systemic change in service of improving outcomes for students with disabilities in Northwest Arkansas.

Major Responsibilities and Duties

- **Cultivate and Sustain Relationships to Drive Change.** You will cultivate relationships with school system staff to refine and enhance our approach for supporting systems change. In tandem, you will sustain internal relationships to support the development and refinement of a shared vision for and the effectiveness of the professional learning and coaching offered to districts and schools.
- **Engage in Strategic Planning.** You will research and present opportunities to further our work in Northwest Arkansas. You will leave no stone unturned in pursuit of expanding our reach and impact.
- Invest in Continuous Learning. You will work alongside the Manager of Partnerships from SPED Strategies to continue to develop and refine your approach to facilitating professional learning, building consensus across diverse stakeholders in service of change and implementing the processes and systems for scaling initiatives.
- Influence leaders to act: You will effectively translate conversations into next steps with colleagues and clients. You will regularly interact with, and be expected to influence, high level personnel at the district and school levels motivating them to implement both small and significant recommendations.
- Lead strategic initiatives: You will be tasked with managing large-scale implementation efforts. You will leverage skills in adjusting your approach to maintain focus on key priorities and implement systems to manage and communicate across key aspects of an initiative.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree is a plus.
- 3+ years of experience in K-12 education with time focused on special education preferred.
- Experience in leadership roles and team management within districts, state agencies or other organizations.
- Experience in facilitating adult professional learning is preferred.
- Proven commitment to equity for all students, including students with disabilities.
- Efficient planning skills with demonstrated ability to manage competing priorities and a dynamic schedule.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- A demonstrated commitment to working through obstacles to achieve individual and team goals and following through on all tasks, big or small.

Location & Compensation

This is a full-time position. Travel to local state, district and school agencies is expected and a significant portion of this role. The salary range for this position is \$70,000-75,000 and is negotiable.

How to Apply

Please send resume, cover letter and completed certified on-line application to Dr. Missy Hixson-Assistant Director/Teacher Center Coordinator, missy.hixson@starfishnw.org