

2014-2015 Educational Grant Application

Submission Date	2014-03-26 18:55:11
Name of Grant	Working Toward Independence
Primary Contact	Kelly Brown
Applicant E-mail	Kelly_Brown@allenisd.org
Phone Number	(972) 727-0400
Campus	Allen High School
Curriculum Area	Special Education
Grade Level(s)	10-12 and 12+
Students Impacted	15
Approver Name	Jared Miller
Approver E-mail	Jared_Miller@allenisd.org
Project Purpose	<p>This project will address the students' need to function as independently as possible both in the home and the community upon exiting from the public school system. The students learn best through real life, hands-on, functional learning experiences. As a result of the "Working Toward Independence" project, students will gain valuable skills and develop independence in all areas of daily living. Specifically, students will participate in all areas of meal preparation including meal planning, grocery shopping, cooking, and clean-up. They will learn about proper nutrition and a healthy lifestyle. They will also learn basic budgeting/money skills and laundry skills. The students will learn skills necessary to order from a menu, interact with restaurant employees, and demonstrate appropriate manners and behaviors in both fast food and sit-down restaurants. As a result of these experiences, the students will learn vital skills necessary for living as independently as possible in their community. The ultimate goal of my project is to improve upon the level of independence of my students, making it possible for each student to participate more fully in their home life and all community experiences.</p>
Project Description	<p>The students will need funding for grocery shopping at a neighborhood grocery store. They will need funding for consumables such as napkins, paper towels, dish soap, and laundry detergent. They will need funding for outings to fast food restaurants and sit-down restaurants.</p> <p>Proposed instructional activities and tasks include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Plan healthy meals/snacks, make grocery lists from simple menu/recipe, grocery shop (locate items, learn layout of store, read aisle headings, display appropriate behavior, ask

for help when needed, interact with employees, compare prices, check out (including use of self-scan check out), use wallet and handle money to pay for groceries, take receipt, solve problem situations that may arise)

-Store food in the appropriate location, understand about expiration dates, read simple recipe or follow picture recipe to prepare food/drink, set table, serve food, practice social skills with peers

-Perform kitchen clean-up

-Use appliances safely (oven, microwave, dishwasher, blender, hand mixer, toaster)

-Order from menu in fast food/sit-down restaurants, follow procedures for each setting including interacting with employees, displaying appropriate manners, paying for meals, tipping wait staff, and solving problem situations

The students who will participate in this program are students in the Functional Academics program at AHS. These students qualify for Special Education services because of an Intellectual Disability. In addition, some students may have vision/auditory impairments, speech/language impairments or other health impairments. Included are students with Down Syndrome, Autism, and Cerebral Palsy.

Benefits of this program include increasing each student's ability to function in the community and home to the maximum extent possible as well as improved social skills and self-esteem. As a result of increased participation of the student in family domestic and community activities, parents will realize their child's potential and will have greater expectations of them. Finally, the entire Allen community will benefit through increased awareness of the realistic potential of individuals with disabilities as well as the enjoyment gained through positive interaction with these very special teenagers and young adults.

Allen ISD Goals/TEKS

This project strongly supports the Allen ISD Mission that "Every child will be provided with engaging school work." The most "engaging school work" for these students involves real-life, hands-on experiences that are meaningful, relevant, and lead to an increased level of independence. It is exactly this type of learning which enables these students to meet the criteria of the AHS Mission Statement that "Each student's potential shall be revealed, respected, and fulfilled."

Measurements

Each student has an Individual Educational Plan that includes specific, measurable goals and objectives in all instructional areas. The students involved with this project will have goals/objectives specific to Activities of Daily Living and Community-Based Instruction. The effectiveness of this project will be evaluated by student progress toward those goals. This progress is updated every 9 weeks.

Teaching Methods

Students will be provided with hands-on, real-life learning experiences. Instructors will use modeling, prompting, repetition, and re-teaching as needed for student success. Also, positive reinforcement and behavior management

	strategies will be implemented.
Timeline for Project	2014-2015 school year
Curriculum/System Support	The Special Education Curriculum will be enhanced by Community-Based Instruction and concurrent classroom instruction because the students will be receiving functional instruction in a real-life setting which will more effectively result in the overall goal of increased independence.
Additional Comments	I have been fortunate enough to have receive funding for my "Working Toward Independence" grant for the past several years. I cannot begin to describe the positive outcomes it has produced for my students and their families in terms of increased independence, self-esteem, and more meaningful participation in community life. The impact this funding has had on my students has been truly amazing.
Instructional Supplies or Resources	NA
Supplies Budget	0
Technology	NA
Technology Budget	0
Staff Training / Staff Development	NA
Training Budget	0
Transportation/Field Trip	NA
Transportation Budget	0
Other	Consumables: Dish soap, paper towels, napkins, laundry detergent: \$50.00 Funding for grocery shopping: \$500.00 Funding for eating out at fast food restaurants: \$200.00 Funding for eating out at sit-down restaurants: \$350.00
Other Budget	\$1,100.00
Total Budget	\$1,100.00
Additional Funds	NA