

**ART INSPIRED ACADEMY  
DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL**

**Reports to:** Program Manager  
**FLSA:** Non-Exempt  
**Status:** Temporary, PRN (as needed)  
**Salary Range:** \$8.60 - \$10.00 an hour

**DEFINITION**

A Direct Support Professional for Art Inspired Academy is an entry level position providing desired supports and assistance to persons with developmental disabilities so that they may participate in Academy classes including music, theatre, visual arts, movement and additional creative arts programs. Experience in dance or fitness is highly recommended. This position will develop to include being the lead instructor as needed in the classes such as, theatre, movement, movie making, young child arts and more. This employee assists in the implementation of the personal plans developed for each person requiring support or assistance; contributes to the development of opportunities for inclusion; and establishes effective interpersonal relationships with the person being assisted, co-workers, parents and/or guardians, and other members of the treatment team. Work involves responsibility for providing necessary assistance to the individual needing supports, observing and reporting information concerning the physical, mental, and behavioral condition of the individual receiving support and assisting in the maintenance of necessary records and reports to document these observations. This team member will also work with the Inclusion Specialist to promote and educate the community about Art Inspired Academy using social media and verbal presentation. Close supervision or direction is received from the Program Manager or other staff members who reviews work through reports and direct observation. Evenings and weekends possibly required.

**This description may not include all of the duties, knowledge, skills, or abilities associated with this position.**

## **EXAMPLES OF WORK**

Provide support in an inclusive environment for individuals with and without disabilities to participate in a variety of arts including music, theater, visual arts, and additional creative arts programs that may also be developed as needed.

Provide community Awareness about Art Inspired Academy and Abilities First

Provide an opportunity for individuals to develop communication, social, and motor skills

Establish an environment that encourages increasing self-confidence

Must have a valid Missouri driver's license, reliable transportation, an acceptable driving record, and auto liability insurance that meet the requirements set by Abilities First

Must be able to drive locally for work-related assignments

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential job duties

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Basic knowledge of arts programming and activities

Basic knowledge of positive behavior supports

Ability to represent Abilities First in a professional manner at community events

Basic knowledge of various developmental disabilities

Ability to identify potential abuse and neglect situations and follow protocol according to all applicable regulatory requirements

Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing

Ability to establish effective working relationships with co-workers and the public

Ability to bend, sit, stand, stoop, and lift up to 30 pounds

Demonstrates professional work ethic

Must be able to pass a background screening

## **EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION**

### **Must have prior experience with:**

- Challenging behaviors
- Positive behavior supports
- Creative teaching methods
- Arts programming
- Working in a team and leading a team
- Knowledge of developmental disabilities including autism

### **Must also have:**

- High School Diploma or GED
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must be able to pass a background check
- Must have reliable transportation, current auto insurance, and a valid driver's license
- Must have a clean driving record