



Aman STEAM Academy

"Next-generation Innovators, Artists, Thinkers, and Inventors"

Paraprofessional Job Description

OVERVIEW OF AMAN STEAM ACADEMY

Aman STEAM Academy is a PreK-8 public charter school opening in Aurora, CO. Approved in October 2014 by the Aurora Public School's Board of Education, our science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) charter school will open its doors in August of 2016 with 310 Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade students. For more information about Aman STEAM Academy please visit our website at www.amansteamacademy.org.

MISSION OF AMAN STEAM ACADEMY

STEM and arts driven career fields are crucial when it comes to driving innovation in our country. Three-quarters of the fastest growing occupations require significant mathematics or science preparation. Yet businesses are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit qualified employees into their workforce. By 2018, there could be 2.4 million unfilled science, technology, and innovation jobs in the United States.

Aman STEAM Academy was founded on the belief that the visual and performing arts, when integrated with science and technology-based instruction, invites creativity and innovation while developing problem-solving and critical thinking skills that are needed to make personal and professional decisions in an ever-changing world. In achieving our mission to prepare our students for success in the evolving science and technology driven 21st century world and workforce, we teach them how to think like a scientist, creatively invent like an artist, and use technology like an engineer beginning the first day of Pre-Kindergarten.

Position Summary: Aman STEAM Academy's paraprofessionals are responsible for partnering with the classroom teacher to ensure that every ASA student achieves the academic skills, intellectual habits and character traits necessary to succeed in work and life. Paraprofessionals perform duties to work with assigned students or with groups of students to ensure that students' learning and behavioral objectives are achieved.

Aman STEAM Academy plans to use project/problem-based thematic instruction for all grade levels and a multi-year grouping (looping) model for grades 1-8. Students in grades 1-8 will remain with a group of teachers for two years, strengthening the relationship between the student, their family, and the teacher in order to create better school-family relationships and to maximize learning for children and allow opportunity to delve deeper in curriculum themes. Elementary STEAM teachers will solely be responsible for integrated, problem-based, hands on STEAM instruction, providing support to literacy and numeracy instruction on certain days of the week.

Paraprofessional Responsibilities: Paraprofessionals at Aman STEAM Academy are expected to:

- Possess a clear and effective pedagogy that embodies our mission, vision, values, and beliefs that instruction must be engaging, relevant, rigorous, and grounded in 21st century learning experiences.
- Maintains a learning environment infused with STEM and arts integration practices
- Provide engaging, motivating, exciting, and relevant instruction daily.
- Use instructional strategies that consistently address students' diverse needs by including adaptations, modifications, and differentiation in the classroom.
- Guide students to make connections between classroom learning and their own prior knowledge and experiences.
- Enforce Aman STEAM Academy values, positive behavior intervention system, PEACE curriculum, and other effective classroom management techniques.
- Embed opportunities for student critical-thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity, as well as use of technology and digital media, into all lesson and unit plans.
- Communicate proactively with colleagues about student needs to ensure integrated support.
- Be present at school from 7:15am through 4:15pm Monday through Thursday, and 8:00am to 4:00pm on Friday. The school day is 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Thursday, and 8:00am to 1:30pm on Friday.
- Operate in a demanding but rewarding environment that requires staff to be flexible problem solvers who manage ambiguity and challenges well.
- Dedicate themselves to the school's mission and vision, adopting a "whatever-it-takes" attitude in helping our students succeed.

Qualifications: Paraprofessionals at Aman STEAM Academy are expected to:

- Believe in and alignment with the mission, vision, and educational philosophy of Aman STEAM Academy.
- Display a commitment to inquiry and project/problem-based, integrated instruction and the STEAM educational framework
- Commit to participating in and implementing Aman STEAM Academy goals, strategies, and ongoing professional development activities within and beyond the school day/year.
- Believe in all students' ability to learn in rigorous collaborative environments
- Have experience working successfully with school-aged children in an urban public school, including a track record of dramatically improving student achievement.
- Display a commitment to building positive, long term relationships with students, parents, colleagues, and STEAM community partners
- Successful clearance of Colorado Bureau of Investigation and Central Registry check.
- Be a highly collaborative, results-oriented, adaptable, problem-solving self-starter.
- Embrace feedback, collaboration, compromise, and take responsibility for student outcomes.
- Embrace using data to inform instructional planning and practice. Comfortable using Microsoft Excel, sharing and analyzing student performance results, and humility in constantly working to improve instructional practices.
- Experience working in an entrepreneurial, dynamic school or related demanding environment that required the ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment.

- Be positive, thoughtful, passionate, articulate, motivating, and empowering with students and team members.
- Have excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Be computer savvy, with proficiency in email, word processing, spreadsheets, Google Docs, etc.
- Be willing to learn new systems including a student information system (Infinite Campus).
- GED OR High School Diploma; Associate's degree OR 60 hours college coursework completed
- Bachelor's degree preferred
- Assists in delivering quality instruction/lessons created by teachers
- Establishes and maintains cooperative working relationships with students and teachers based on trust and respect.
- Provides instructional support within the special education and general education classroom as needed in order to meet students' needs
- Communicates high expectations for behavior by teaching, practicing and reinforcing rules and consequences
- Maintains accurate and up-to-date records
- Assumes responsibility for student achievement
- Provides feedback to teachers about students' progress and needs
- Collaborates with content and grade-level teams to promote an environment of critical thinking and academic rigor.
- Consistently reflects on instructional practices through formal and informal methods and works relentlessly to meet individual and professional development goals.
- Meets professional obligations through efficient work habits such as meeting deadlines and honoring schedules.
- Works to become knowledgeable about best practices in working with students with learning disabilities and challenging behavior
- Participates actively in developing and following through with individualized learning plans and behavior plans for students
- Assists in the daily functioning of the school as necessary
- Escorts, assists, and/or supervises student(s) during play periods, movement throughout the building, to and from buses, toileting routines, lunch, snack, specialized and inclusive classes, community activities and other times as designated.
- Guides independent study, enrichment work, and remedial work assigned by the teacher
- Performs other duties related to Special Education, as assigned by teacher or administrator.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN AMAN STEAM ACADEMY TEAM MEMBER

Aman STEAM Academy wants talented founding teachers from diverse backgrounds and experiences who are inspired by our mission and are motivated to unleash our children's potential. We want teachers who are strong collaborators, skilled communicators, problem solvers with a critical consciousness and who are comfortable in a community of continuous learning and improvement. We want teachers who are experts in their discipline and can creatively inspire youth. As a startup organization, we seek individuals who enjoy building something from the ground up and who are comfortable with the uncertainty that typically accompanies the creative process.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for the Elementary STEAM teacher position, email a cover letter, resume, three current letters of recommendation, and statement of interest (explaining why you are interested in working for Aman STEAM Academy) to our Talent Management office at talentmgmt@amansteamacademy.org.