



Aman STEAM Academy

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

Elementary Special Education Teacher 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: The Special Education Teacher is entrusted with the educational support of students with federally mandated Individual Education Plans for students with educational, physical, and other exceptionalities as well as additional students who are being monitored in a tiered response process as needed. Special education teachers are also expected to build relationships with other students in the teaching team and within the school as appropriate, and to implement and support other teachers in the mission of Aman STEAM Academy. This teacher is expected to contribute to a highly supportive and highly challenging school climate that supports academic achievement and the needs of the whole child.

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.

This is a full-time, exempt, at-will position. The Special Education teacher reports directly to the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

Special Education Teacher Job Responsibilities: Special Education teachers 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.
- Coordinate and implement the Aman STEAM Academy Curriculum
- Maintains a learning environment infused with STEM and arts integration practices
- Provide engaging, motivating, exciting, and relevant instruction daily.
- Communicate regularly and proactively with students and families.
- Guide students to make connections between classroom learning and their own prior knowledge and experiences.
- Actively participate in requisite Aman STEAM Academy training, professional development activities, and coaching during and outside the regular work day.
- 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.
- All teachers must meet the requirement of a **"highly qualified teacher"** as mandated by the No Child Left Behind Law. Requirements are as follows:
 - **Must have obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher;**
 - **Must have demonstrated competency in the core academic subject area(s) that he/she teaches by passing a content area test or enough hours to be equivalent to a major (24 semester hours). The core academic areas are English; Reading or Language Arts; Mathematics; Science; Foreign Languages; Social Studies (Civics, Government, Economics, History, Geography); the Arts (visual arts, Drama, Music).**
 - **The 3rd requirement, as mandated for public school employees, is state certification/licensure in special education. This requirement is not waived for Special Education Teachers at a charter school.**
- ASA will have preference for special education teachers who also hold gifted education endorsements. Candidate should have concentrations, research, and/or experience and be prepared to continue to develop skill and expertise, in:
 - Special Education (and Remedial Instruction techniques)
 - Curriculum & Instruction

- Gifted Education/Twice-Exceptional Education
 - Colorado's Response to Intervention (RtI) & MTSS Process
- Responsible for administering and interpreting results of ability and achievement assessments, using accurate testing procedures and developing continual improvement of student academic performance in collaboration with other teachers
- Responsible for team- and co-teaching with other teachers for integrated lessons/units in core subjects and other faculty as appropriate to promote the educational, physical, and social/emotional development of students
- Responsible for analyzing student achievement data, and using data to drive and adjust instruction
- Responsible for ensuring that effective, ongoing differentiation is in place for both remedial and advanced learning needs, within every teaching opportunity
- Responsible to facilitate staffings concerning Individual Education Plans, to confer with parents, administrators, testing specialists, social workers and others to develop IEPs.
- Responsible for maintaining students' special education Individual Education Plans, and Personal Learning Plan Goals each reporting period; and connecting to Individual READ Act Plans, Advanced Learning Plans, Section 504 Plans, and classroom needs as appropriate
- Responsible for implementing, facilitating, monitoring, and supporting a tiered intervention process to maximize student support and achievement within school design
- Coordinate additional support personnel and ensure that Individual Education Plan deadlines and requirements are met
- All other duties as assigned

Qualifications: Core academic teachers 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
- Have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree and "highly qualified" under the definition of No Child Left Behind to teach in the identified content area.
- Have experience with and passion for: teaching using project/problem-based instruction, teaching using thematic units, and creating a STEM and arts integrated classroom
- 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 in standards-based, backwards planning.
- Experience working in an entrepreneurial, dynamic school or related demanding environment that required the ability to adapt to an ever-changing environment.
- Desire for rigorous professional developing and coaching with a focus on continuous improvement and instructional effectiveness.
- 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).

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.