



STARability Foundation **S**upports people with disabilities by providing life-transforming opportunities that emphasize **T**eamwork and connection to the community to build **A**wareness and **R**espect for individual abilities. STARability serves individuals with intellectual and developmental challenges in Southwest Florida, where we provide lifetime support and opportunities. STARability opens up a whole calendar of engaging activities with innovative and creative programs that focus on continuing education, teamwork, and community involvement.

Position Summary:

The Junior Trailblazer Academy is an after-school program that offers vocational training, continuing education, and life-enriching opportunities such as art, health and wellness activities to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities between the ages of 14 and 22 who attend Collier County high schools. The program also focuses on employment readiness training, life skills education, and community connections through the arts and environment.

The After-School Program Instructor for the Junior Trailblazer Academy will assist their team in facilitating classes and activities in a classroom setting and out in the community. This position will also conduct assessments and make recommendations that will benefit the participant in building life skills and reaching individual goals to increase their independence. Through this program, participants have the opportunity to interact with our community partners, so the instructor should have a passion for advocating for the participants while out in the community.

Hours and Wages:

This is a full-time position at 33-40 hours/week. Applicants seeking a part-time position at 15 to 20 hours/week and who are available during the required hours will also be considered. **Candidates must be able to work from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM Monday-Friday to support the Junior Trailblazer Academy (while school is in session).** As a full-time position, this position will support other programs such as Trailblazer Academy and/or job coaching during the week and weekends and over the summer break. The hourly rate is based on experience, starting at \$19.00 an hour. Full-time positions are benefits eligible.

How to Apply:

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Jr.tba@starability.org

Responsibilities:

- Check-in and track attendance of participants when they arrive at the program and after arriving at every location in the community.

- Supervise and support the participants during all activities while out in the community and during activity times.
- Effectively and enthusiastically deliver lessons during class times.
- Actively adapt teaching styles during instruction to meet the needs of varying types of learning styles.
- Provide feedback about previous lessons and participants' understanding to other instructors and Program Directors.
- Implement and demonstrate what is taught in the curriculum to support the development of life skills in appropriate environments.
- Communicate effectively with the participants. This includes utilizing non-verbal techniques and/or assistive technology.
- Evaluate participants using a provided impact assessment system to identify their level of independence in a life enrichment or vocational path.
- When needed, observe and track participants' behaviors, interactions and attitudes while engaging in classes/activities.
- Manage caseloads and complete assessments on time.
- Work with the co-directors and other staff to analyze participants' data and make informed decisions on goals and/or programming.
- Implement strategies and activities to impact the participants' ability to demonstrate their independence in our 8 critical life skill categories.
- Provide support to other STARability programs.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of an Associate Degree in Special Education, Occupational Therapy, Recreational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Social Work, or a related field, or two years of experience providing education, social, or direct care services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Ability to apply general principles of education, vocational training and socialization for individuals with developmental challenges and similar needs who are seeking and maintaining employment and those seeking to develop skills that could eventually lead to employment.



- Ability to be flexible, patient and handle a variety of situations.
- Ability to communicate with a wide variety of individuals within the community.
- Candidates must have a valid state driver's license, be eligible to drive STARability vehicles and be able to pass a criminal background screening.
- Candidates must have competency in or willingness to learn a variety of virtual platforms and productivity software such as Zoom, Microsoft Office, and more to aid in educational instruction.