

2016-17 Down Syndrome Education Specialist Program

Presented by:

The Down Syndrome Association of Greater St. Louis



What is a Down Syndrome Education Specialist?

A Down Syndrome Education Specialist is an educator, professional, parent and/or caregiver trained to help facilitate the education of students with Down Syndrome.

What is the purpose of this program?

The goal of the Down Syndrome Education Specialist Program is to provide support for educators, professionals, and parents seeking to build a meaningful education for students with Down Syndrome.

How can you become a Ds Education Specialist?

In order to become a highly valued "Ds Education Specialist" an educator, caregiver or professional must attend all four, six hour workshops covering issues such as educational strategies, behavior supports, curriculum modifications and inclusion. Individuals are welcome to attend single sessions; however, to become a "Specialist," attendance at all four is required. Workshops are FREE and CEUs are available upon completion of the series.

For more information contact:

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Participants will learn to...

Session 1—Intro to Ds and DD in the Classroom

- Understand what Down syndrome is and how it affects learning.
- Address medical concerns that may affect learning.
- Utilize community resources to create the most effective, inclusive educational setting for your student.

September 23, 2016, 9am—3pm @ DSAGSL Office

Session 2 - Behavior Solutions

- Interpret the meaning of challenging behaviors and implement effective strategies.
- Develop solutions for an inclusive classroom.
- Use social story and visual supports in the classroom to improve behaviors.

November 4, 2016, 9am-3pm @ DSAGSL Office

Session 3 - Curriculum Modifications, Adaptions & Technology

- Work effectively with paraprofessionals and participate in classroom activities.
- Utilize assistive technology to improve learning.
- Develop and implement adapted curriculum.

December 9, 2016, 9am-3pm @ DSAGSL Office

Session 4 - Inclusion, Social Learning and Thinking Transition

- Create an effective classroom environment.
- Facilitate social interactions .
- Prepare students for transition and facilitate independence.

January 13, 2017, 9am-3pm @ DSAGSL Office

Past Participants on the most beneficial portion of the program:

"What inclusion can look like. That people with Down Syndrome can truly live."

"Ideas for assessing and adapting work; behavior management."

"Don't give up. Find a way."