



San Mateo Union High School District

A Commitment to Quality Education for a Better Future.

Applied Academic Curriculum *Certificate of Completion* Program

San Mateo Union High School District's
Special Education Department

Who We Serve

SMUHSD's Applied Academic Program (AAC) is designed for students:

- With mild, moderate, and severe disabilities who receive Special Education services.
- Work towards a Certificate of Achievement.
- Benefit from a small-group, special day class setting.

AAC students do not receive a high school diploma.

The Purpose

The Applied Academic Curriculum program's goal is to provide students with the **essential academic, functional, and occupational skills** to enable them to compete in an education and job market per their abilities and well developed skills.

The AAC Program

AAC focuses on learning through a *hands-on approach*.

The academic areas are tied to the

CAA (California Alternative Assessment and CAPA (California Alternative Performance Assessment) standards.

AAC makes content *relevant* and *concrete* through:

- Life and Social Skills
- Functional Academics
- Vocational Training
- Community-Based Instruction

Life and Social Skills

- Personal information
 - Hygiene & daily living skills
 - Personal finances
 - Health and nutrition
 - Transportation & navigating the community
 - Social skills practice
 - Self-advocacy
 - Career readiness & job skills
- > Independence & productivity.

Functional Academics

- Measurements and telling time
- Budgeting and money management
- Shopping and planning
- Oral and written communication
- Following and creating schedules
- Computer skills
- Reading for information

--> Independence & productivity.

Vocational Training

- Exploration of jobs thru field trips with a Vocational Specialist
- Job training with a Job Coach during transition years through Integrated Work-Based Learning (formerly Workability)
- Job and employee skills
- Application, resume, and cover letter writing skills

--> Independence & productivity.

Social Skills & Community-Based Learning

- Mainstreaming into Electives and PE, as appropriate
 - Adapted PE/Specialized PE is available
 - Staff support when applicable
- Inclusion opportunities in school-based events and activities
- Reverse mainstreaming and peer tutors
- Community activities and travel-training

--> Independence & productivity.

The AAC Program

- Students complete at least 4 years in the AAC program
- Case Managers monitor progress based on IEP Goals
- Includes appropriate DIS services:
 - Speech & Language Therapy, Adapted PE, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Mental Health Services
- Appropriate transition services until age 22
 - Adult Transition Program
 - Project Search
 - Direct to Work (with support)

SMUHSD AAC Programs

Applied Academic Curriculum Program (AAC)

High School Program

Burlingame High School

- Margaret Balmana & Karen Breslin

Hillsdale High School

- Kristin Landucci
- Julia Payne
- Deborah Stuart

Mills High School

- Andrew Batman
- Yvette Gonzalez

Capuchino High School

- Tatiana Martinez

**Placement into program is dependent on student's educational & personal needs, and space.*

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