



COS

COLLEGE OF THE SEQUOIAS

VISALIA

HANFORD

TULARE



**Connecting
High School Graduates
with IEPs/504s
to Services while at COS**



Who Are We?

AAC is a resource for students, staff, faculty, and our community.

Access and Ability (AAC) Staff:

AAC Director: **Lyndsi Litten**

AAC Counselors: **Maria Hamid**
Matt Bentley
Tina Barraza

Learning Specialist: **Kathleen Conway**

Coordinator of Interpreting/Captioning Services:
Catrina Campbell

Testing Center: **Christy Ortega (Visalia)**
Cassi Lewis (Hanford)
Theresa Rocha (Tulare)

WA III Coordinator Counselor: **Brittney Faulkner**

Support Services Coordinator: **Kyle Campbell**

Alternate Media & Technology Specialist: **Meg Miller**

*We also have an amazing frontline office staff, **Laura Delgado** and **Vanessa Lopez**, and student workers to connect students to services they need as well as those behind the scene to maintain data, **Melony Henson**, and produce alternate media.

Contact info found at:

<https://www.cos.edu/aac>

COS Legal Affairs

ADA Coordinator/508 Compliance Officer: **John Bratsch** johnbr@cos.edu 559.730.3830



Tonight's Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions by COS' Access & Ability Center (AAC)
 - Differences to Expect at College (as opposed to experience at HS)
 - AAC Services to Expect
 - Workability III (WA III)
- Why are we here?
 - We want students to be successful while at COS!
 - No modifications to curriculum
 - Same rigor for all COS students
 - AB 705 information: College-level Placement (remedial options no longer available)
 - Financial Aid ramifications
- Community Support Services:
 - Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)
 - Visalia Adult School (VAS)
 - Tulare Adult School (TAS)
- Concluding Remarks/Questions



Differences from HS to College

Grades K-12	Community College
Student has the right to a free and appropriate public education	Student has the right to equal access to education; admission and continued participation are dependent on eligibility and satisfactory progress
School district identifies student and documents disability	Student provides documentation of disability and need for accommodation
District is responsible for developing Individual Educational Plan (IEP); 504 plan follows student from elementary school, to middle school, to high school	Student must notify the college regarding disability and need for services
Student is entitled to services identified on IEP; school district ensures that IEP is implemented and services are delivered	No IEP; student is responsible for requesting and utilizing services and/or accommodations; college services are not automatic; each college decides eligibility and services
Parents and teachers advocate for student	Student advocates for self; process is more cooperative, deliberative, and interactive
Program of study may be fundamentally altered to fit the student	Accommodations may not alter fundamental nature of course or impose undue burden on institution
Student may have right to success; institution is responsible for student's success	Student is responsible for meeting requirements for academic success
Personal services are provided (e.g., nurse, personal attendant care, transportation)	No personal services provided
School staff communicates with parents	Student is treated as an adult, has right to confidentiality, must authorize exchange and/or release of information in writing (for off-campus); information is shared on a "need-to-know" basis on-campus.



Additional Differences

- Students must initiate teacher contact – if you don't let your teachers know about your services, they won't know to let you use them (AA Form).
- No Special Education classes in College; instead, students receive supports to promote equal access.
- No assignment modifications. Students must meet expectations of the course instructor.
- We recommend using COS' Tutorial Center, Math Lab, and Writing Center
- Everyone has different goals in College.
- The student decides their course of study, number of units in which they wish to enroll each semester, and services they wish to use and when.
- Class Schedules may fluctuate with time and days.
- There's no Bell Schedule – you have to (or, get to) manage your own time and schedule.

AAC \neq Special Education



Why Connect with AAC?

- The Access and Ability Center works to ensure equal access to education for students with disabilities by:
 - Providing academic accommodations to assist with barriers to learning
 - Encouraging self-advocacy, abilities, and skill development through various services
 - Offering LS Classes (1-2 units)
 - Specialized Counselors and Assistance



AAC Services, Materials & Courses Available

Alternate Media

Audio Books/eText

Braille Books

Large Print

Tactile Graphics

Assistive Services

Assistive Technology (including training)

Alternative Furniture Requests

Authorized Accommodation Plan/Forms

Counseling (academic, career)

Priority Registration

Sign Language Interpreters

Testing Center Services

Readers/Writers (during testing)

Access Lab (also on Zoom)

WorkAbility III Employment Assistance

Employment Preparation

DOR Connection

Learning Assessments

Equipment (Limited Quantity)

Adjustable Back and Seat Cushions

Audio Recorders

FM Systems/Amplification Devices

Luggage Carts

Magnifiers

Note-taking Paper

Spellchecker

Smart Pens

Liaison

Facilitate Student/Faculty Communication

Referral to other COS Programs and Services

Referral to Community Resources

Seizure/Diabetes Notices

Tutoring Referrals

Encourage Self-Advocacy

Learning Skills Classes

LS 320: Personal Development

WEXP: Work Experience

(more in the works)



WorkAbility III (WA III)

- The WA III program is a cooperative agreement between the College of the Sequoias AAC and California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). DOR meets with COS AAC students to open new WorkAbility III files the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.
- The WA III program provides,
 - Vocational Assessment
 - Employment services and Monthly Workshops
 - Mock Interviews
 - Employment Portfolios
 - Work Experience for AAC students at COS.
 - On the job training (OJT) opportunity with local employers.
 - Work closely with WIB, CSET, and EDD.
- Application: <https://www.cos.edu/en-us/Access-Ability/Documents/DOR%20Application%20for%20WA%20III.pdf>
- For more information about WA III, please contact Brittney D. Faulkner at brittneyf@cos.edu



Educational Options at COS (1)

(NOTE: Your application is not contingent upon “acceptance” like an University; you may enroll in classes after applying on your assigned date.)

Associate Degree/Transfer

- Takes more time to complete (because general education courses are required). Degrees provide more career and transfer opportunities.
- Everyone starts in college-level courses.
- If you are not in 12th grade math/English and want to pursue a degree/transfer you can enroll in a concurrent support course for English and math
 - or you might consider strengthening English and Math skills at the Visalia Adult School before taking English & math at COS.
- Check COS Major list for degree and transfer options

<https://www.cos.edu/en-us/student-support/counseling/major-sheets>



AB 705 Implications

- English and Math Placements stopped at all CA Community Colleges 2 yrs ago (due to AB 705)
- All students seeking degree/transfer in college will be placed into transfer-level English and Math.
- If struggle, the transfer-level courses have support courses to co-enroll in.
- Students pursuing a vocational certificate program do not need to complete general education courses.



English & Math - Requirements

Degrees

- **ENGL 001 (College Reading and Composition)** emphasizes writing, reading, thinking, familiarity with information technology, and research. This course requires a substantial research component and writing of a minimum of 6,000 words.

AND

- **MATH 010 (Structures and Concepts)** focuses on the development of quantitative reasoning skills through explorations of topics in mathematics. Emphasis is on comprehension, analysis of concepts, and applications of logical reasoning.

OR

- **MATH 021 (Intro to Statistics)** focuses on probability and statistics covering both descriptive and inferential statistics. Statistical software will be used throughout this course. Topics include measures of center and spread, probability, probability distributions, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, regression, and correlation analysis.

OR

- **Math 144 (College Algebra)** College level course in algebra: polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, absolute value, and logarithmic functions; systems of equations; theory of polynomial equations; analytic geometry.

Certificates

- Math and English are not required to complete a certificate program.
- **Some basic math and basic English skills will still be required to complete course assignments.**



Educational Options at COS (2)

Certificate/Vocational-Career Technical Education Programs (CTE)

- Agriculture & Natural Resource
- Arts, Media & Entertainment
- Building Trades & Construction
- Education & Child Development
- Engineering & Design
- Fashion & Interior Design
- Finance & Business
- Health Science & Medical Technology
- Hospitality, Tourism & Recreation
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing & Product Development
- Marketing, Sales, & Service
- Public Services
- Transportation

Certificates can take less time to complete than pursuing a degree (general ed is not required for certificates). Prepares you for a very specific job field.



Understanding Course Load

- **Units = Time Commitment**
 - Most classes are 3-4 units
 - Number of units = Hours per week in class
 - Homework per week = Double your units/hours
 - Ex: **6 units** = 6 hrs in class + 12 hrs h/w = **18 hrs/wk**
 - Ex: **12 units** = 12 hrs in class + 24 hrs h/w = **36 hrs/wk**
- **Full-time/Part-time Status:**
 - You decide! Keep online learning in mind (during the pandemic). We recommend you enroll in the extra class(es) initially, if debating, since you have 2 weeks to try and can drop to the best course-load for you. You will not be able to add more classes later!
- **Financial Aid Opportunities**
 - Impact and possible ramifications of repayment if drop or fail



COVID-19 Updates

- Campus back open (60% of classes are back face-to-face this semester). Counselors and Student Services are available now in-person or by phone or Zoom
- If you enroll in online classes, plan to work independently to meet deadlines, independently learn material, and manage your own time.
- Plan for lots of reading! There has been an increase in COS Emails plus most classes use Canvas (on top of all texts and assignments).



AAC Process

STEPS TO ENROLL IN COS

1. Complete a COS Web Application
2. Submit Paperwork (intake and IEP/504) to Access Services with the Access & Ability Center to AAC@cos.edu or Kyleca@cos.edu
3. Attend the Intake Appointment to Receive AAC Services
4. Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Dream Act Application.
5. Register for classes during AAC STEPS (first week of April) on Zoom (*if completed steps 1-3*)
6. Complete COS Orientation
7. Stay in Touch – Contact us regularly for ongoing support, as well as to keep up to date with your services and AAC accommodations.
8. Bridge to COS Event: Beginning of August

See this info online at <https://www.cos.edu/en-us/Access-Ability/Pages/High-School-to-College.aspx>

Teachers/Counselors, please email kyleca@cos.edu for AAC Outreach Info



DEPARTMENT of
REHABILITATION

Vision

Employment, independence and equality
for all Californians with disabilities

Established 1963

Eligibility Criteria for DOR Services

- The individual must have a physical or mental impairment
- The impairment(s) constitutes or results in a significant impediment to employment
- VR services are required to secure, retain or regain employment

VR Services

- Career Assessment & Counseling
- Development of Vocational Rehabilitation Plan
- Career Education & Training
- Tuition, Books, Transportation
- Job Search and Interview Skills
- Assistive Technology

Getting Started

- Call 559-735-3838 to apply for DOR services

Any Questions?



- Visit www.dor.ca.gov for more information on Programs and Services available to Californians with a disability

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

**Are you between the ages of 16-21 and
attending school?**

Do you have an IEP or 504 plan?



**EXPLORE CAREER
OPTIONS**

**GAIN PROFESSIONAL
SKILLS**

GET WORK EXPERIENCE

EARN MONEY

**Workforce
Investment
Board**

If going to COS,
contact Brittney to
sign up at
brittneyf@cos.edu

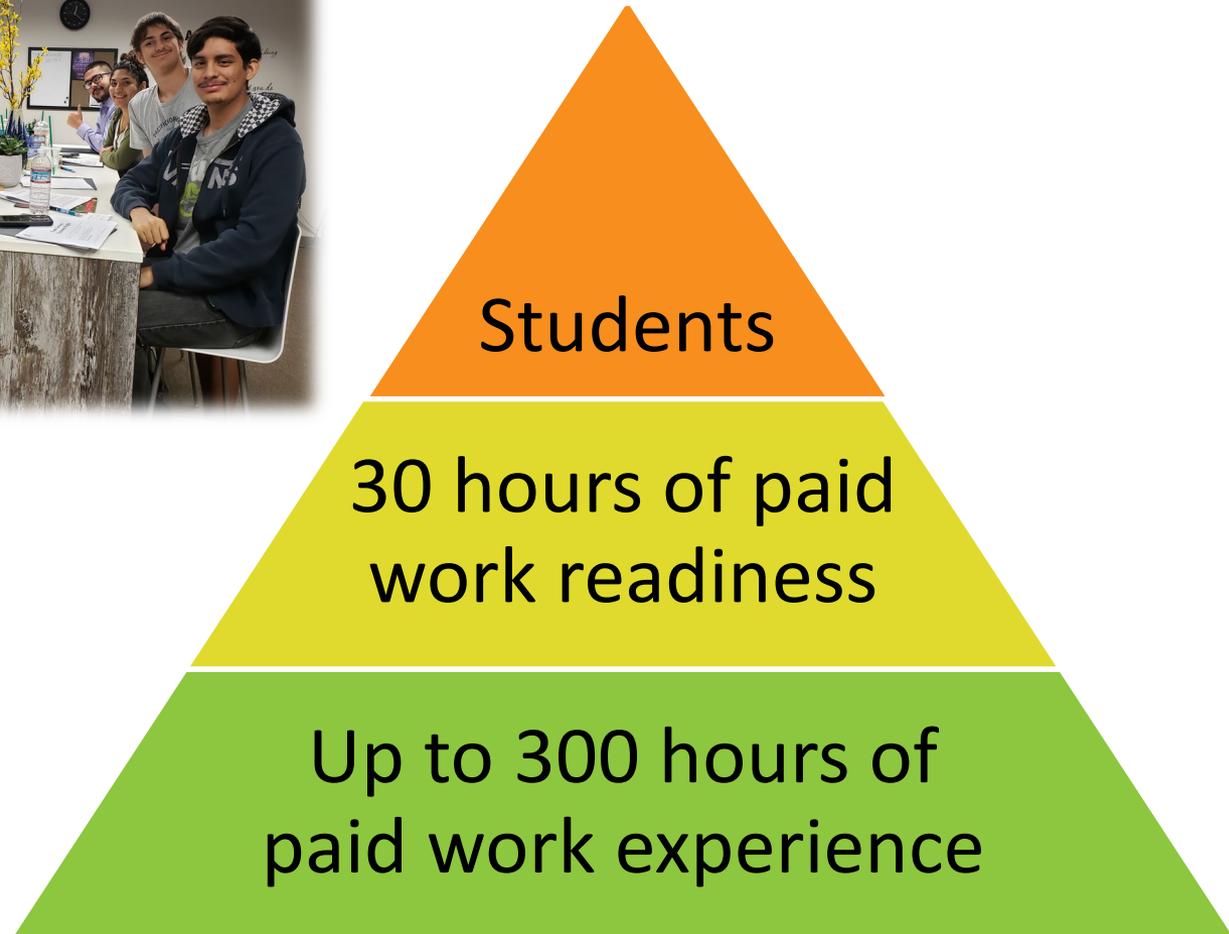


Sign up now:

**Karen Pizano, STEPS Coordinator
559-713-5166 or karen.pizano@cset.org**

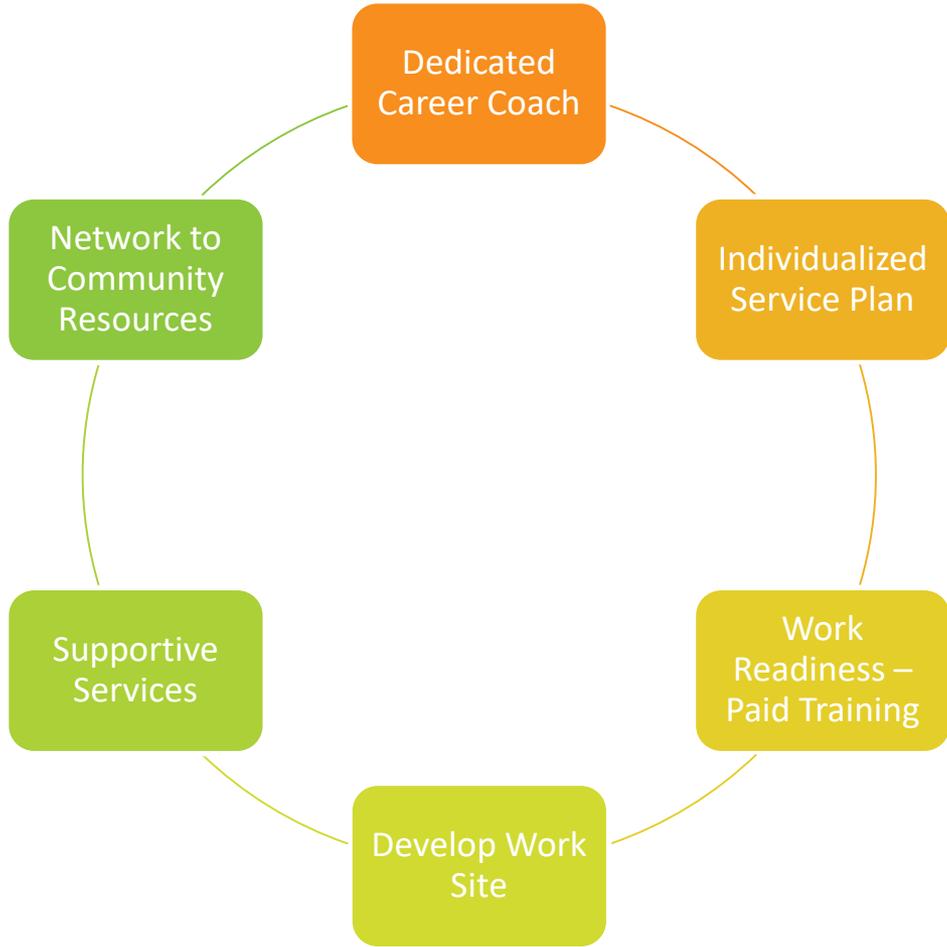


Program Design





Student Support



Visalia

ADULT SCHOOL

Changes Lives!

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia Adult School programs

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Citizenship

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

High School Equivalency (HSE)

Spanish GED

High School Diploma (HSD)

Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN)

Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)

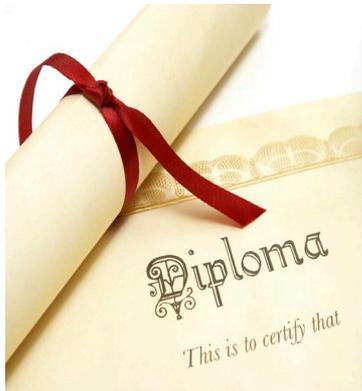
Medical Assistant (MA)

Medical Billing and Coding

Medical Terminology

Care Giver

Child Care





Visalia Adult School programs (cont.)

Visalia



VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Welding
Electrical
Logistics**



Basic construction

Office Skills

Microsoft Office

Google

Adults with Disabilities (AWD)

Adult Transition Program (AWD)

Jail Program – HiSet, Electrical, Logistics

Some classes offered in hybrid/hyflex model



Visalia Adult School

Locations

Visalia Adult School Main Campus

3110 E. Houston

Classes Daily 8am-3pm

Tuesday - Thursday 6pm-8pm

Downtown Visalia Campus

Located in Proteus

224 NW 3rd

Classes Daily 8am-3pm

Visalia Adult School at Veva Blunt

Elementary

1119 Chinowth St

Tuesday - Thursday 4pm-6pm

Visalia Adult School at Conyer

814 S Sowell St

Tuesday - Thursday 4pm-6pm

Visalia Adult School Houston Campus

1200 N Giddings

Classes Daily 8am-3pm

Visalia Adult School at VCIS

1821 Meadow Ave

Tuesday - Thursday 4pm-6pm

Visalia Adult School Ivanhoe Campus

16030 Ave 332

Ivanhoe, CA 93235

Tuesday - Thursday 4pm-6pm

Visalia Adult School Exeter Campus

Located at Exeter High School

505 Rocky Hill Drive

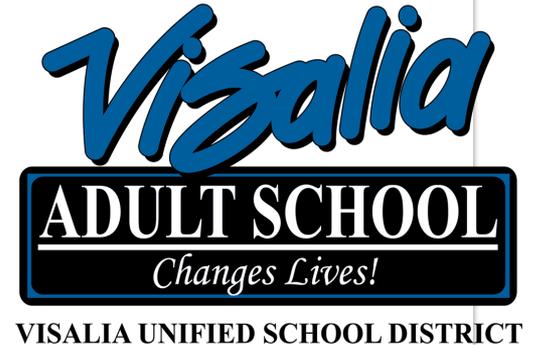
Exeter, CA 93221

Tuesday - Thursday 5:30pm-8:30pm

Creative Center and Able Industries

Enrollment Process

- Must be 18 years or older
- Contact Visalia Adult School at:
559.730.7646
- Schedule a counseling appointment:
Lydia Borquez, Counselor



To enroll online go to:

<https://visaliasadulthoodschool.asapconnected.com>

Or visit our website:

<https://www.vusd.org/AdultSchool.cfm>



**The Commission granted TAS with a six-year
Accreditation Status through June 30, 2023**



Current Programs



- Adult Basic Education (ABE): Tulare, Pixley
- Adult Secondary Education (ASE): Tulare, Pixley
 - High School Diploma
 - General Educational Development (GED) (English and Spanish Classes)
- Career Technical Education Programs (CTE): Tulare
 - Clinical and Administrative Medical Assisting
 - Combination Welding
 - Culinary Arts
 - Nurse Assistant
 - Office Occupations
 - Phlebotomy
 - Vocational Nursing
 - LVN Prerequisites: Anatomy & Physiology; Medical Math; Medical Terminology; Nutrition
- English as a Second Language (ESL): Tulare, Pixley, Earlimart
 - EL Civics and Citizenship Preparation



Spring Enrollment

Enroll Online

tulareadultschool.asapconnected.com



Questions?



Thank You for Coming!

Contact Us:

www.cos.edu/aac

aac@cos.edu

(559) 730 – 3805

Questions??