**What is a Uniquely Abled Academy™? (UAA)**

An intensive career preparation program for uniquely abled individuals who have huge potential and need to be given the chance to succeed in a meaningful career. A Uniquely Abled Academy provides those with Level 1, (high-functioning, low-support needs) autism an education and job placement in a career that is relevant and provides income, dignity and purpose while filling a major need for employers, and easing parent concerns.

**Can you provide me with an overview of what the program would look like for my organization?**

- The Uniquely Abled Academy is a 12-16 week (one college semester) program, with over 300 hours of in-class instruction led by experienced machining instructors. The program also includes 60 hours of job readiness instructions.
- Trainees will learn to program, setup, and operate Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines combined with using quality control instruments, shop mathematics and blueprint reading.
- Graduates will qualify for a number of entry-level positions, including machine trainee, machinist apprentice, CNC operator, and CNC programmer.

**What will the graduates receive by the end of the program?**

Each UAA selects and provides a unique set of certifications and benefits that typically include:

- College certificate of completion
- National Institute for Metalworking Skill (NIMS) credentials for CNC
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Safety Certificate
- Tooling U-SME Training Program/Certificates or equivalent
- ACT WorkKeys certificate or equivalent
- Products they have made
- Completed resume
- Mock interviews
- Scheduled job interviews

Each UAA can substitute any or provide additional certifications and benefits.

**How do we get started?**

- Go to the website for Uniquely Abled Project™ (UAP) UniquelyAbledProject.org to learn more, then contact Ivan Rosenberg, (IRosenberg@UniquelyAbledProject.org) Founder and President, to begin the process.

**How much does it cost?**

- Students pay nothing.
- Businesses pay nothing.
- There is a one-time fee of $10K to the Uniquely Abled Project for consulting, rights, licenses, and guidelines for establishing a Uniquely Abled Academy.
- Costs are typically covered by grant money, government funding, financial institutions, and community organizations.

**Are there any UAA's currently operating that I can speak with?**

- Yes – Mike Bastine (Michael.Bastine@canyons.edu) at College of the Canyons will be happy to answer any questions and provide you with their experience hosting the program.
What is the criterion for those with Level 1 autism to attend the program?

- 18 years or older
- High school graduate or GED recipient
- Successfully demonstrate basic algebra and English skills (sometimes demonstrated using ACT WorkKeys pre-tests)
- Ability to work Monday – Friday eight hours a day
- Comfortable working with machinery in an industrial environment
- A good attitude

What are the steps for a school to be a UAA Host School?

- Has the equipment and instructors for a CNC program and is interested in being a UAA Host School.
- The geographic area to be considered is a diameter of 1 hour travel time around the school.
- Validate demand in the geographic area – confirm that there is a need for CNC machinists in the geographic area.
- Validate supply in the geographic area – check with organizations that serve the autistic community to see if there is a large enough population that meets the criteria for the program.
- Contact The Uniquely Abled Project to guide you through the following steps:
  - Establishing a UAA Project Team made of multiple organizations in a partnership to provide all needed UAA functions.
  - Project Management
  - Marketing to attract students
  - Designing UAA curriculum (based on school's existing CNC training curriculum)
  - Establishing funding to cover all costs
  - Setting up soft skills training
  - Establishing job placement services and outreach to businesses
  - Establishing post-hire support

Get Started NOW – Be a part of the solution that can provide rewarding careers for your Level 1 Autism Community

The Uniquely Abled Project

Funds dedicated to the work of the Uniquely Abled Project amplify the program's impact nationwide, providing the potential to transform millions of lives.

Contact us: info@UniquelyAbledProject.org • UniquelyAbledProject.org
We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit: Tax Id: 81-3868351
Please consider supporting our work: UniquelyAbledProject.org/donate/