

# Transition Program

## Building the Bridge from School to Work

Sierra's Building the Bridge School-to-Work Transition Program is designed to equip students for productive and fulfilling futures beyond school by preparing them to enter the workforce. The underlying philosophy of this program — connecting school-based activities and learning to work-based activities and learning for real-world application in the job market — is consistently and effectively implemented to ensure that Sierra Academy students acquire the skills needed to secure gainful, rewarding employment after graduation.

Enabling and empowering students to direct their own lives is the key to our approach. Each school year, our high school students develop and enhance their self-knowledge by discovering their own learning styles, their strengths and weaknesses, and their interests and preferences. The individualized tools and techniques we use allow them to identify future goals and desires that then lead them in the direction of career paths and occupations most suited to their abilities and aptitudes.

In addition to imparting self-advocacy measures and the principles of a responsible work ethic, our student-centered program includes creating a résumé, learning how to complete a job application, and conducting mock job interviews. We also provide on-campus workplace experience that paves the way for off-campus, on-the-job training through apprenticeships and job placements with our local business partners in the community.



# Populations Served

*The Sierra Academy is the perfect home for students who learn differently:*

- ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)
- OHI (Other Health Impairment)
- SLD (Specific Learning Disability)
- ID (Intellectual Disability)
- SLI (Specific Language Impairment)
- MD (Multiple Disabilities)

## Schoolwide Student Learning Results

Sierra Academy of Scottsdale students will be:

Healthy Individuals

Technologically Literate Individuals

Independent Individuals

Academically Competent Individuals



## Contact Us Today!

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Sierra Academy  
of  
Scottsdale

*Building Confidence & Competence  
through Personalized  
Academic Interventions*



# Sierra Academy Programs & Services



## The Sierra Way



## Related Services



## Academy Accents



As Scottsdale's preeminent provider of nonpublic specialized education for students in grades 1 to 12 with mild to moderate special needs, the Sierra Academy is expertly staffed and fully prepared to address the unique challenges of our student body on all fronts — academically, socially, and behaviorally.

### Comprehensive specialized education at its best.

Every day, our exceptionally skilled and devoted staff implements our innovative sensory-based educational model designed specifically to optimize learning for students with special needs. Our model features:

- Hands-on multisensory teaching
- Interactive rotational tutorials
- Small class sizes, with an incredible student-to-staff ratio
- A safe, structured, nurturing environment

### Personalized attention to individualized needs.

Our customized, research-based program is complemented by a host of related services, all intended to equip the student with appropriate and effective social-emotional skills, fundamental life skills, post-graduation career counseling/job training, and community awareness.



### Working toward success in and out of the classroom.

### Characterized by a collaborative approach among all service providers.

#### Occupational Therapy

We meet the demands of our students' environment through occupational therapy, which assists sensory, perceptual, and motor skills. Our therapist works directly with the children on foundational skills for motor planning, sensory processing, organization, and visual motor integration.

#### Speech-Language Therapy

Language development plays an important role in clarification of the required skills of thinking, performing, and problem solving. Thus, each eligible student receives an individualized and synchronized speech program, created by our certified speech pathologists and concentrated on such areas as expressive/receptive language skills, speech production skills, auditory processing, pragmatic/social language skills, voice, and fluency.

#### Physical Therapy

PT services are provided for students with gross motor challenges, postural problems, balance and coordination deficits, muscle weakness, decreased flexibility, and/or abnormal gait. Our therapists closely attend to the foundational skills necessary for the performance of daily functional activities.

#### Individual & Group Counseling

The Sierra Academy offers the full range of emotional support services, in both one-on-one and collective settings.

#### Technology in the Classroom

Technology-based learning is a vital supplement to the Sierra Academy's core instruction, to familiarize our students with up-to-date hardware and software and to acclimate them to the products and programs



so prevalent in their daily environment. Accordingly, we make concerted efforts to stay technologically current in our classrooms, outfitting them with multiple computers, all loaded with the latest instructional

programs and teaching aids. We enhance basic computer skills and knowledge with leading-edge advancements, like disability-specific interactive software programs, adaptive technologies and equipment, and iPad-assisted learning.

Furthermore, our teachers employ computerized programs to spotlight skills currently being taught and to zero in on targeted areas for review. Our various tracking programs are essential to properly and accurately monitor student progress and provide appropriate instruction in response.

### A one-of-a-kind school with an array of engaging activities that stimulate the intellect and tap into talents.

- Schoolwide Behavior Management Program
- Social Skills Programs (e.g., social thinking)
- Learning-Based Interactive Technologies
- Music Program
- Field Trips
- Annual Events
- Workplace Experience