

**WSU ROAR Program
College of Education
Assistive Living Advisor (ALA)
Academic Year 2021-2022**

The WSU ROAR Program as part of the Washington State University College of Education provide a fully inclusive Postsecondary Educational Program and access to the WSU campus experience to young adult students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Through program workshops, specialized training seminars, career-development, and on-campus living, WSU ROAR strives to empower students to reach their personal and professional goals and achieve independence in an inclusive campus environment. WSU ROAR provides transformational educational experiences for students with and without disabilities, enacting the institutional land-grant mission of access, engagement, and service to society.

WSU students play a critical role in the development, implementation, and leadership of the WSU ROAR program. **This position includes rent and utilities in a 2 or 3-bedroom apartment at the Chinook or Nez Perce Village Apartments during the employment period and a monthly stipend.**

An Assistive Living Advisor (ALA) is a student-staff member who works in the Nez Perce Village Apartments as part of the WSU ROAR program helping to create safe and engaged communities for young adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (WSU ROAR students). They typically work with 4 to 10 WSU ROAR students, on the WSU ROAR program staff, and in a community that could be single-gender, coed, large, small, first year students, or upper class students. An ALA is one of the staff positions within the WSU ROAR program following the guidelines of the program as well as the Department of Residence Life. They also live with other ALAs (roommates) within the same apartment unit.

An ALA works to develop a positive and educational community with their residents. This includes a variety of tasks from keeping the WSU ROAR students informed of on campus events to supporting students who are in crisis. The ALA will often help solve conflicts (e.g., roommate issues or housing/building maintenance issues) and identify other potential challenges and address them. They are also connected across campus through working on department committees and taking part in large-scale programs. The position is very dynamic and changes from day to day.

Our ALAs wear many hats, but on any particular day they could:

- Work with academic advising issues
- Discuss a resident's personal concerns
- Make referrals to counseling
- Plan and implement an educational or social program, including some weekends
- Facilitate a conversation about a roommate conflict
- Run a WSU ROAR housing meeting
- Serve as a resource
- Assist WSU ROAR students as it relates to independent living:
 - Assist in the development of person-centered planning
 - Assist students select social experiences for the afternoons or weekends
 - Support students by answering daily questions, helping them navigate the campus and/or various challenges, and help them become part of an inclusive community
- Assess programming, services, and independent living outcomes
- Assist in the organization of peer allies (same-age peer program volunteers) tasks
- Implement program expectations (e.g., behavioral expectations)
- Participate in WSU ROAR activities: staff meetings, planning, assessment, training, etc.

Required Qualifications:

- Prior experience working with individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and their families;
- Strong communication (verbal & written), problem solving, and interpersonal skills;
- Superior organizational skills and attention to detail;
- Proven interest in issues of social justice, diversity, and disability awareness;
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office programs;
- Washington State University student/graduate student (preference will be given to graduate students in the College of Education)

Preferred Qualifications:

- A bachelor's degree in special education, education, psychology, social work, or related area or prior teaching/paraprofessional experience in a K-12 special education setting or similar setting;
- Believe in the possibility of effecting positive change in our communities;
- Take personal initiative;
- Seeking a graduate degree in special education, cultural studies and social thought in education, teacher education, educational psychology, psychology, social work, or related area;
- Be flexible in the daily, weekly, and semester long scheduling;
- Commit to attend weekly staff meetings, one semester in-service training, a three-day all staff professional development prior to the fall semester, and a half-day professional development prior to the spring semester;
- Be willing to work in a team-focused environment.

Starting/Ending Dates: August 16th, 2021 to May 13th, 2022

Hours: ALAs serve in a part time role, and while the scheduled hours are flexible due to the nature of the position, you can plan on spending about 20 hours per week on the job.

How to Apply:

Please send the following materials in one email to the WSU ROAR email address: coe.roar@wsu.edu

- Letter of Intent
 - Explaining why you are a good fit for this position and your past experiences that connect with working with our WSU ROAR student population.
- CV or Resume
- Three references and their contact information
 - Current employer must be included.