

Allison Tearney

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Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Master of Arts in Education Policy

Sept. 2023 -

Present

Master of Arts in Severe or Multiple Disabilities

Graduated

October 2023

New York State Annotation: Severe or Multiple Disabilities

Vanderbilt University - Peabody College, Nashville, TN
2018

Graduated May

Bachelor of Science

Major: Special Education, GPA: 3.65

University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
2016

July - November

Semester study abroad program

Employment

Best Buddies International, New York, NY

September 2024

- Present

Senior Manager, Transitions

- Continue to manage and coordinate the New York City Best Buddies Transitions program in schools and in the community
- Continue to teach students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), ages 14-22, in the areas of self-advocacy, job exploration, work readiness, and post-secondary counseling
- Continue to work with government agencies and grant stakeholders to implement Transitions programming
- Work with individuals with IDD who are referred to Best Buddies through ACCES-VR to develop their skills needed before obtaining a job
- Work with the Best Buddies Curriculum Cohort to develop a national Best Buddies Transitions curriculum
- Assist with onboarding new Best Buddies Transitions employees through the national Best Buddies Transitions Welcome Committee
- Facilitated for the Sexuality & Disability Cohort lead by Best Buddies International
- Received Transitions Manager of the Year Award, 2024

Lead Manager, Transitions
Sept. 2024

February 2024 -

- Managed and coordinated the New York City Best Buddies Transitions program in schools and in the community
- Taught students with IDD ages 14-22, in the areas of self-advocacy, job exploration, work readiness, and post-secondary counseling
- Worked with government agencies and grant stakeholders to implement Transitions programming

Lead Program Manager
Feb. 2024

August 2023 -

- Managed the New York City, Westchester, and Rockland County school-based Best Buddies Friendship programs
- Taught students with IDD, ages 14-22, who are enrolled in the New York City Best Buddies Transitions program

New York City Department of Education

Special Education Teacher at P226M, New York, NY

Sept. 2018 -

August 2022

6:1:1 Transition Teacher (tenured)

- Taught 18–21-year-old autistic students¹ life, job, and independent living skills
 - Created and organized community worksite opportunities for my students
 - Participated in developing the Transition and Sexual Education Curricula
March 2020
- New York City Teaching Academy Teacher Development Facilitator* Nov. 2019 -
January - May
2020, 2022
- Mentor for pre-service teachers
- Math and Literacy Tutor**, New York, NY **January 2020 - Present**
- Teach math and video blogging skills to a 30-year-old autistic student
- Special Olympics Massachusetts**, Marlborough, MA **Summers 2015 - 2017**
Intern at state headquarters
- Helped run the Massachusetts Unified Champion Schools Program and local Special Olympics School Day Games
- Experience – Special Education Programs and Research**
Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY
- Course Assistant* May 2023 -
August 2023
- Assisted professor in teaching a graduate level, special education course
- Mazin Laboratory* October 2022 -
May 2023
- Assisted in writing a phenomenological research article on experiences of a neurodiverse student in graduate school
- Yankowitz Laboratory, Research Assistant* January 2023 -
Aug. 2023
- Assisted lead researcher on a study on aging parents’ plans for their children with disabilities
- Achilles International** – New York, NY and Nashville, TN **Sept. 2017 - Nov. 2023**
Volunteer running guide for individuals with disabilities
- Best Buddies**, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN August 2017 -
May 2018
Board Member, Friendship Walk/Spread the Word to End the Word Co-Chair
Buddy Sept. 2014 - May 2018
- Matched with a 30-year-old friend with intellectual disabilities
- Special Olympics Vanderbilt University**, Nashville, TN **April 2017 - May 2019**
President and Founder of Special Olympics Vanderbilt University
- St. Raphael’s RC Primary School**, Athlone, Cape Town, South Africa **August - November 2016**
Volunteer
- Tutored students with special education needs at an after-school program

¹ In the Special Education field, there are ongoing conversations on whether to use person-first or identity-first language when referring to a person with a disability. As this is a current discussion without a clear consensus, for this resume, I will be using person-first language when referring to ‘students/children with disabilities,’ and identity-first language when referring to ‘autistic’ and ‘neurodiverse’ students.

Nashville Dolphins, Nashville, TN **Sept. 2014 -**
April 2017
Swim coach for children with disabilities

Special Education Practicum and Student Teaching Placements
Student teacher at the Henry Viscardi School, Albertson, NY **February 2023 -**
April 2023
Student teacher at a high school and a middle school in Tennessee **January - May**
2018
Practicum student at four elementary/high schools in Tennessee **August -**
December 2017

Certifications

New York State Professional Teaching Certification **May 2024 -**
Present

Students with Disabilities – Grades 7-12 – Generalist

New York State Initial Teaching Certification **August 2018 -**
May 2024

Students with Disabilities – Grades 7-12 – Generalist

Students with Disabilities – Grades 1-6 – Generalist

Peer Education

VUcept, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN **August -**

November 2017

Student VUceptor

- Mentor to freshmen students during their first semester

Kappa Delta Sorority, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN **Nov. 2016 - Nov.**
2017

Vice President of New Member Education

Extracurricular

Social Entrepreneurship Organization, Teachers College, New York, NY **Sept. 2022 –**

May 2023

Vice-President

2023

January - May

- Create business models to address social issues

Personal Interests

Running, travel, reading, competent in American Sign Language and Spanish

Staffing Requirements and Qualifications - 2024-2028 Core Rehabilitation Services

121X- Post-Secondary Options Counseling

1008X- Post-Secondary Options Counseling for Potentially Eligible

122X – Job Exploration Counseling

1005X –Job Exploration Counseling for Potentially Eligible

124X – Instruction in Self-Advocacy

1006X –Instruction in Self-Advocacy for Potentially Eligible

127X – Workplace Readiness Training to Develop Social Skills & Independent Living

1007X –Workplace Readiness Training to Develop Social Skills & Independent Living PE (potentially eligible)

557X – Work-based Learning Experience Development

1009X- Work-based Learning Experience Development for Potentially Eligible

963X – Work-based Learning Experience Wage- Reimbursement

1001X- Work-based Learning Experience Wage-Reimbursement for Potentially Eligible

964X – Work-based Learning Experience Mentor

1002X- Work-based Learning Experience Mentor for Potentially Eligible