



# accel

We serve all people **who have special needs** to learn, to work, and to live successfully with dignity and independence



We are a nonprofit organization serving children and adults who have developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder, behavior disorders & intellectual disabilities.

We **turn challenges into possibilities** by making the greatest possible impact on the lives of our students, clients and members.



## K-12 Education

Exceptional educational, behavioral, therapeutic, and vocational programs for individuals with special needs ages 5 to 22.



## Adult Day Center

Lifelong educational and vocational training to individuals over 18 years of age with developmental disabilities.



## BISTÅ Center

Services for children 18 months to 13-years-of-age through evidence base Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and social groups.



## COME TAKE A TOUR

Can see your child here?  
If so, join us for a tour  
and let us show you  
how your child will  
**thrive** at ACCEL!

[LEARN MORE](#) +



We carry out our mission by enacting our **core values**:

- I** Initiative
- D** Dignity
- E** Excellence
- A** Accountability
- S** Service

## OUR MISSION

To provide exceptional educational, behavioral, therapeutic, and vocational programs to individuals with special needs and developmental disabilities, to give them the necessary skills to learn, to work, and to live successfully with dignity and independence.



602.995.7366 | [accel.org](http://accel.org) | [info@accel.org](mailto:info@accel.org)

...meeting every special need

# Our Impact & Reach

ACCEL is committed to doing the right thing for students. The ultimate goal is to help individuals who have developmental disabilities **achieve a life of dignity** and self-worth—something that all people, regardless of ability level—deserve.



**267**

individuals with  
unique challenges  
served each year

hours of  
physical  
therapy given

**1650**

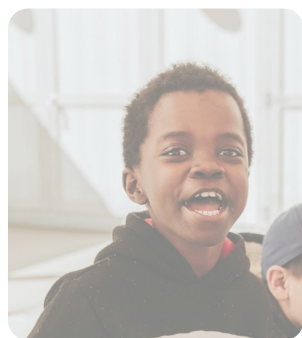
number of  
school districts  
we serve

**32**



**1600**

hours of  
music therapy  
given



**14**

different areas  
of disability  
served

hours of  
speech therapy  
given

**2430**

**214**

teachers and  
staff members



**100%** of parents tell  
us that "Accel  
really listens"

Parents who say  
they always feel  
connected  
and informed:

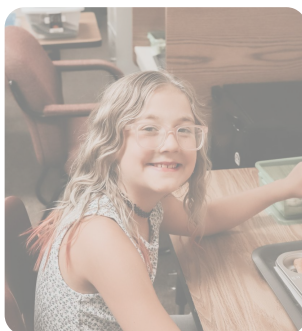
**100%**

aggressive  
behaviors  
decreased by

**74%**

**140**

students  
receiving  
speech therapy



**1693**

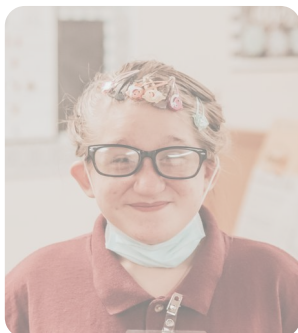
IEP goals have  
been mastered

**26**

students  
graduated from  
ACCEL in 2021

**200**

students have  
graduated since  
2012



**33k**

hours of therapy  
provided to  
students each  
year

hours of  
aquatic  
therapy given

**550**



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# A Day in the Life



Explore a day at ACCEL through the eyes of a student, as well as one of our teachers, and see the Accel difference:



When our students arrive on campus for the day, they are greeted with a warm welcome from our staff.

The student and staff member walk together to the student's classroom where the student puts away their belongings, completes personal hygiene routines, and gets comfortable in their seat to begin academic lessons.

**Each arrival routine reflects the student's individual needs for therapeutic support, sensory input, and communication.**



Breakfast and lunch options are available to all students.

Mealtime takes place in the classroom to work on family mealtime skills. ACCEL's nursing, therapy, and nutrition staff all coordinate together to **accommodate the specific dietary needs of each student**, including allergies and food sensitivities, consistency of food and liquid, and use of adaptive utensils and/or cups.



When I walk into school every morning, I love seeing my favorite paraprofessional, Miss Jessie. She is always right there at the door to say, "Good Morning."

On the way to class, Miss Jessie asks me about my morning. We love talking about basketball and racing cars. After we get to class, we put away our things and we all wash our hands, brush our teeth, and comb our hair. Then, we get in our seats.



My physical therapist, Miss Lexie, helped me get a special chair that helps me sit comfortably and safely at school.

**Now I can learn better at school and focus on my lessons.**



My favorite part of the day is eating with my friends.

We have breakfast and lunch in our classroom every day. Each one of our meals is prepared just for us, and some of my friends help to bring them to our room.

My occupational therapist, Mr. Matt, helped me get my special fork and spoon.

**I can do so many things now, all by myself. My mom is so proud of me.**





# A Day in the Life *(continued)*



The daily routine in the classroom is structured to support the pace and needs of each student while also allowing for group interactions and activities.

**Students receive a blend of specialized instruction** in academics, independent living skills appropriate to their chronological and developmental age, development in vocational experiences and social interactions.

The individualized needs for therapeutic support, organization of sensory input, and an effective communication system are crafted within the delivery of each activity or routine to **ensure meaningful access and engagement.**



Expectations are set with the use of concrete visual strategies such as “First, Then” boards and visual work systems that illustrate the structure of the activity or task.

**ACCEL staff build customized rewards** at intervals that are the most meaningful for your child.

At the end of each school day, **the teacher provides a written note that is sent home sharing the events & highlights of the day.**

The teacher may also choose to post a photo or video from the day on a secure subscription-based app so you can share in your child’s daily experience



Every day my teacher, Miss Abby, likes to start the day with our morning meeting and my favorite time is when we have a morning dance.

Everyone in my class likes to dance and it makes me so happy!

Miss Abby always makes a plan for me, so I always know what to do first, and then what to do next. **It feels so good to not be lost during class time**

We learn how to make sandwiches in our cooking class and we even made a paper mâché earth for our solar system lesson.

When I am afraid to try something new, **I remember that there is always someone nearby to help.** We were working on a big project about the weather and I wasn’t sure if I could do it. Miss Abby was there to help me & I did it!

When we start something new, we all participate in the way we learn best to make sure everyone can understand. At my school, all the kids are different, and **the teachers and staff make sure all of the students are included.**



When it’s time to go home, my teacher writes a special note to tell my family all about my day. My mom always reads it right away when I get off the bus.

Today, my teacher posted pictures of us practicing how to make a bed. I could tell my parents were impressed. I am getting pretty good!

**I cannot wait to go back to school tomorrow!**

