

CTSP Overview

Hi, I'm Dr. Lakshmi Mahadevan. I'm program coordinator for the Career and Technical Special Populations Training and Resource Education Center at Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, or CTSP Center for short. The purpose of our center is to better prepare CTE teachers to work effectively with students from special populations. Think of the CTSP Center as your personal online teacher's aide for working with special populations. Research has shown that more students with special needs or IEPs are enrolling into CTE classrooms. While this is great for students, we know that not every educator is fully prepared to address the special student population's needs. We also know that teachers in Texas are strapped for time. You may be facing an issue in your classroom that you need more information or resources to help you work through. Thanks to the CTSP Center, you won't have to waste valuable time searching for that information. The CTSP Center offers you a one-stop-shop for the information you need, both online at our website or printed materials and books from our library. The CTSP Center offers a variety of tools and resources: online training videos and modules, answers to frequently asked questions, newsletters, and a library of digital and printed materials for your use. It's easy. Our website offers up-to-date, trustworthy resources and information, which are all research based. We can answer your questions about disability law, special education, accommodations for students with special needs, career and technical education issues, and career development information.

One of the great things about our site is our live chat function. You don't need to download any software; it's free to use and is available all throughout the week. One of our CTSP staff members can chat with you live to answer questions and process resource material requests for your use.

Another feature of the site is our online training modules. These educational videos and information help CTE teachers become more knowledgeable about special education topics like laws, accommodations, instruction techniques, assessment, Universal Design for Learning, English language learner instruction, behavior management, and more. Our staff updates and archives videos each year, so if you need to rewatch one, it'll be there. Not only are these video modules great for informational purposes, but they also offer continuing professional education credit for free through the Texas Education Agency.

If it's printed materials that you want, our website allows you to request a checkout of the particular book or resource. The CTSP center will mail it to you then give you a two week period to use it before it's due back. All you have to do is fill out the checkout request online, open your mailbox a few days later, and then return it in the mail when you're finished. The only cost to you is the postage to mail it back. It's that easy.

If you would like to receive your information through social media, then follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or subscribe to our online blog. At the CTSP Center, we understand teachers. We know that you are preparing your students to be successful in life and career after school, and we hope that you'll use the CTSP Center as your online teacher's aide to work more effectively with your special student populations.