



Spring 2019 After-School Volunteer Position Description

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Breakthrough San Francisco is an educational non-profit that supports young people in San Francisco on the path to college and trains outstanding college students for education careers. We are looking for adults, college students, high school students, and 8th grade Breakthrough and SF Day students to volunteer in our after-school program with academically motivated 5th-8th grade students from underserved communities around San Francisco. All programming takes place at San Francisco Day School (350 Masonic Avenue at Golden Gate Avenue). All volunteers receive training and ongoing support from Breakthrough's staff.

The commitment is one afternoon per week:

-Mon. from 3:30-5:30pm

-Tue. from 4:00-6:00pm

-Wed. from 3:30-5:30pm

-Thur. from 4:00-6:00pm

TUTORING:

The after-school program will start the week of February 11 and run through the week of April 29.

You will be matched with the same students -- barring absences -- each session, ensuring that you get to build relationships and begin to understand how to support them best. Mondays and Wednesdays are mostly 5th and 6th grade students in smaller groups, while Tuesdays and Thursdays are mostly 7th and 8th grade students in larger groups. Tutors who are in 8th grade volunteer on Mon. or Wed, typically for the first hour only. Tutors who are in high school or older will volunteer for the full two hours on Mon., Tue., Wed., or Thu.

TEACHING:

Volunteers of high school age and older who are interested in an additional leadership opportunity can apply to teach a class. After tutoring on Mon. and Wed., volunteers can teach a self-designed academic/elective class of 5-10 fifth and sixth grade students. Teachers must submit a lesson plan each week and are observed during each lesson. On Tue., in lieu of tutoring, volunteers can teach a math class to groups of 10-12 seventh grade students, using a pre-written curriculum. Please note that the number of teaching positions is limited, and that those opting to teach are expected to spend time outside of Breakthrough preparing for their classes.

Please note that these are volunteer positions, and that admission is selective. Successful applicants demonstrate enthusiasm, attention to detail, an interest in educational equity, and ideally prior experience working with middle school students.

For more information, visit www.breakthroughsf.org/volunteer or email Michael Duryee-Browner, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, at michael@breakthroughsf.org.



Breakthrough

San Francisco

at SF Day School

Volunteer Commitment

1. General Dates

- Week of Feb. 11 through week of April 29
- No tutoring Wed. Feb 13, week of Feb. 18-21, week of Mar. 25-28, and week of Apr. 8-11

2. Initial Tutor/Teacher Training (subject to change):

- All volunteers: Tutor Training, Wed. Feb. 6 from 5:00-8:00pm
- Teachers only: Teacher Training, Thurs. Feb. 7 from 6:00-8:00pm

3. Ongoing Work

- Mid-semester training: Take home assignment, date TBD
- Notesheets: 10 minutes each week to write tutoring session reviews (5th/6th grade tutors only)

4. Mid-Semester Check-Ins:

- Week of Mar. 25

5. End-of-Semester Celebration:

- Wed. May 1 *or* Thu. May 2 from 6:00-7:30pm (date to be finalized soon)



Spring 2019 Volunteer Application Short Answer Questions

Directions: Please complete the [Google Form](#) -- also found at www.breakthroughsf.org/volunteer-- with your answers to these questions.

Short Answer Questions (**ALL Applicants**)

1. How did you hear about Breakthrough?
2. Have you previously applied to Breakthrough? If so, when?
3. Have you worked for Breakthrough or any other mentoring, tutoring, or teaching program in the past? If so, for how long and with what age groups? What were your duties?
4. Besides English, in what languages are you *conversationally fluent*?
5. What do you consider to be your strongest academic subject area(s)?
6. If you have indicated above that you are interested in teaching a class, please describe the subject(s) you would be most interested in teaching. We offer both traditional “academic” classes such as math or writing, as well as “elective” courses (ex. drama, sports, art, etc.)

Reflection Questions (**NEW Applicants only**)

**Suggested word count is 75 to 100 words per question.*

1. Why are you interested in volunteering (tutoring and/or teaching) at Breakthrough?
2. Adolescence is often a tumultuous time during which young people need good role models. Tell us why your students will see you as a role model.
3. Who is/was your all-time favorite teacher? What makes them stand out from the rest?
4. What are some of the best ways to maintain a safe and positive learning environment for middle school students? How will you maintain this environment with your students?
5. 8TH GRADE APPLICANTS ONLY: The students in the program will be very close to your age; however, you will be interacting with them as a teacher, not as a peer. What do you think are the benefits and challenges of this situation? How will you balance your role as a teacher and a friend?

Returning Tutor/Teacher Reflection Questions (**RETURNING Applicants only**)

**Suggested word count is 75 to 100 words per question.*

1. Why do you want to return to Breakthrough as a tutor and/or teacher?
2. How do you think the students you worked with in the past benefitted from working with you?
3. What was a specific challenge you faced as a tutor and/or teacher? What would you do differently to be more effective with your students?