

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Breakthrough Philadelphia launches talented students, beginning in middle school, on a path to college success and inspires outstanding college students to pursue careers in education.

Breakthrough increases educational opportunity by focusing on the development of both students and teachers. Through academic enrichment and college preparation, Breakthrough prepares students who have limited educational opportunities to attend and succeed at competitive high schools and four-year colleges. Simultaneously, Breakthrough develops future educators by providing professional teaching experiences to college students through its selective residency programs. Breakthrough Philadelphia is part of a national educational movement called The Breakthrough Collaborative, which operates in 26 cities across the country.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Volunteer Teaching Fellow position is designed for college students interested in learning and developing practice as a classroom teacher and working with underserved high potential Philadelphia students across multiple topics. This volunteer position includes training and support based in our Breakthrough Teaching Fellowship model, including Instructional Coaching in the classroom.

Breakthrough is seeking Volunteer Teaching Fellows (VTF) for its 2017 – 2018 School Year Program at Drexel University and Germantown Friends School sites. Volunteer Teaching Fellows can choose to volunteer at either or both sites. Volunteer Teaching Fellows will work as a classroom teacher to a group of approximately 15 students grades 7 – 12, either on their own or in a team of two. Curriculum includes Writing and Literature, and online delivery and instruction in a “Flipped Classroom” of Financial Literacy and other curricula provided by EverFi.

Breakthrough has been an approved program for internship credit and other opportunities. Please discuss how you can get credit or work study with the appropriate department at your college or university.

The Role of a Volunteer Teacher

Breakthrough employs the unique and effective “students teaching students” model. The program offers its volunteers the responsibility and creative freedom to use their skills to affect students’ lives in immediate and significant ways. As role models, our young faculty shows that educational success is both possible and exciting. In turn, they discover the many rewards and challenges of teaching and mentoring an exceptionally talented and lively group of young people.

BT volunteers are TEACHERS who instill a love of learning and the skills necessary for our students to thrive in their schools.

Each teacher will instruct or co-instruct at least one class of 12 - 18 middle-school students. Teachers will be trained in the academic curricula, which will be provided by Breakthrough. Due to time constraints, School Year Program teachers will not develop their own lesson plans, but they are encouraged to infuse their own style and ideas into the provided curricula. ***Volunteer teachers should spend at least an hour reviewing and preparing each week’s lesson plan in order to ensure well-prepared and effective instruction. They must also spend 30-40 minutes post-program to evaluate student work and complete a short feedback survey about the day’s lesson.***

In addition to program, there will be weekly one-hour training. Volunteer teachers will reflect on their teaching and be able to continuously make improvements throughout the semester. These sessions will include instructional and management strategies that can be implemented and practiced during program. It also serves as a time to learn how to analyze student data and adjust instruction as necessary.

The Commitment

1. Program Schedule: Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (students on site from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
October 28	Germantown + Parent	January 27	Training Days
November 4	Drexel	February 3	Training Days
November 11	Germantown	February 10	Germantown
November 18	Drexel	February 17	Drexel
December 2	Germantown + Parent	February 24	Germantown
December 9	Drexel	March 3	Drexel
December 16	All Program Students/Staff Winter Breakthrough Social Site TBA	March 10	Germantown
		March 17	Drexel
		March 24	Germantown
		April 7	Drexel
		April 14	Germantown
		April 21	Drexel
		April 28	Germantown
		May 5	Drexel
		May 12	Germantown
		May 19	Drexel

Volunteers are expected to attend all program days for the semester, however, if you have a known conflict, arrangements can be made with the Site Coordinator in advance.

All volunteers are expected to honor their weekly time commitment, both in terms of attendance and pre/post-program work, for the entirety of the semester. Only in case of an emergency is an absence excused.

How to Apply:

Complete ONLINE application at <http://breakthroughphilly.org/teacher-application> .

If selected, you will interview with a Site Coordinator or the Program Manager.

Questions or concerns and interest should be directed to:

Sonya Chen
Program Manager
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