

Alternative or Community Outreach TAship for the MCB Program

Program Name:

Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (FEPPS)

Program Contact:

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Number of slots:

1-2 per quarter (Quarters as follows: Winter, Jan-March; Spring, April-June; Summer, June-Sept; Fall, Sept-Dec)

Program Description:

Mission:

We provide a rigorous accredited college program to incarcerated women in Washington and create pathways to educational opportunity after women are released from prison. Our goal is to increase women prisoners' economic and personal empowerment, contribute to family stability, and reduce recidivism through college education.

Who we serve:

Our students are female prisoners at the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW) and Mission Creek Correctional Center who range in age from eighteen to sixty-five. The majority of these women have had minimal access to education, come from impoverished backgrounds, and never finished high school. In 2016, there were 138 women enrolled in FEPPS classes.

Background:

Women are the fastest growing segment of the prison population. Women in prison have often accrued significant debt; carry the stigma of incarceration; remain under-educated and barred from employment opportunities. This traps them in a cycle of poverty with a higher risk of their children being imprisoned. Education is the single most important factor in breaking this cycle. According to a 2013 Rand Corporation study, those who go to college while incarcerated are 43% less likely to return to prison than those who do not.

Duties & Expectations:

Volunteers can carry out two different roles, Classroom TA and/or Study Hall Tutor. The same volunteer is encouraged, though not required, to do both roles as consistency is great especially for the science classes as most of the students haven't taken science courses before. If the volunteer does not host Study Hall hours, they will be expected to attend more classes and/or plan a separate science related work shop to make the time up to 80 hours

Classroom TA

- TAs are required to come to the class once a week or(/and) all lab sections.
- As will be collaborate and coordinate directly with the teacher of the course.

- Communication with the lead teacher and FEPPS staff is key.
- Though we encourage and appreciate community TAs, the lead teachers are given the opportunity to opt-out of having a TA.

Study Hall

- Each quarter we offer three study hall days a week for our students. These study hall sessions are facilitated by local university students, community members, and former FEPPS teachers. Particularly looking for volunteers with emphasis on science and math support.
- The commitment requirement for this is once a week for an entire term (limited to 2 absences).
- Example Study Hall Schedule (exact days/times will change by term):
 - Monday afternoons 1-4pm
 - Wednesday evenings 6-9pm
 - Saturday mornings 9-11:30am

Sample Schedule/Timeline:

Prior to start of Volunteership:

Department of Corrections Volunteer Orientation and Training 7 hours
 Communicating with instructors and planning for course needs 5 hours

Weekly during Volunteership (8-11 week commitment depending on needs of the course and instructor. Exact duties will vary by course and instructor):

Planning for classes/labs/study hall	2+ hours
Attending and assisting with 1-2 classes/labs per week	3.25-6.5 hours
Leading study hall groups	3.25 hours
Optional: work with instructor and FEPPS staff to develop and lead own science-based workshop for students. This will allow those who choose to focus as only a TA or only a Tutor to make up additional hours	20+ hours
	<u>80-105</u>
Total hours*	hours

*Total time commitment for planned activities should be 80-100 hours.
 In most cases the time commitment should be restricted to one academic quarter (8-10 week period).
 Please explain any deviations if necessary.