



2401 Claremont Ln. • Houston, TX 77019
www.breakthroughhouston.org

Breakthrough Houston Teaching Assistant Summer 2025

Position: Teaching Assistant (AmeriCorps Member Service Position)

Term: June 2, 2025 - August 2, 2025

Location: Houston, TX - In Person

Stipend:

- 1st Year Fellows (AmeriCorps Member) - \$3,500
- 2nd Year Returning Fellows (AmeriCorps Leaders) - \$3,750
- 3rd Year+ Returning Fellows (AmeriCorps Senior Leaders) - \$4,000

Education Award: \$1,956.35 (upon successful completion of the Member's 450 service hours and completion of the full term of service, members are eligible to receive an Education Award from the Corporation for National and Community Service of \$1,956.35 to pay education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training, or to repay qualified student loans. Members may receive no more than the aggregate value of **two** full-time education awards.)

Our Mission:

Breakthrough Houston has a unique dual mission of working with highly motivated, historically excluded students to achieve post-secondary success and empowering aspiring leaders to become the next generation of educational advocates.

Equity is central to Breakthrough's mission, and equity is one of our organization's core values. We are committed to intentionally creating diverse communities and work to ensure that all identities – particularly Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and those that have been historically marginalized – are represented and supported. We strive to see the identities of the communities we serve reflected across all levels of our team.

Our Background + Our Program:

Founded in 1995 with a handful of teachers and a small class of 7th graders, Breakthrough Houston makes a bold ten year commitment to students - from middle school through college graduation. BTH comprises three fundamental programs for students: the Middle School Program, College Bound Program, and the College Completion Program, and currently serves *over 800 students* within Houston or at colleges nationwide. BTH provides summer and ongoing school year tuition-free programming that includes both academic college preparatory curriculum and learning opportunities, as well as extended enrichment programming and college access support. With this depth of focus we aim to promote academic success and personal growth to place our students on the path to college completion and career success.

Additionally, our Teacher Training Program identifies and supports current college students who are aspiring teachers through an innovative near peer model during our summer program. We partner these Teaching Assistants with professional educators who provide intensive instructional coaching and mentoring. We support 100+ Teaching Assistants each summer who gain 100+ hours of in-classroom teaching experience.

Job Summary:

Experience firsthand what it's like to work with high schoolers and help them achieve their highest and most defiant dreams. Grow as a leader and an educator. Become an AmeriCorps Summer Teaching Assistant for Breakthrough Houston College Bound and have the most meaningful summer of your life!

Breakthrough seeks passionate college students to be Teaching Assistants to assist in College Bound Programming. Teaching Assistants will be sorted into one of two categories:

- College Application Teaching Assistants:
 - Over the summer, College Bound will have 4 in-person, one-week college application workshops to get a head-start on applications for rising seniors. By the end of our week, students will have a personal statement they are proud of, a finalized list of colleges they will be applying to, and a completed Common Application. Teaching Assistants will play a pivotal role in guiding students through the process, editing essays, assuaging fears, and boosting their confidence.
 - During the weeks without an in-person workshop, Teaching Assistants will continue reviewing essays from weeks before and having 1:1 meetings with students who are applying to early decision programs (including QuestBridge and Posse Scholarships)
- Program Coordinator Teaching Assistants
 - Over the summer, College Bound maintains two pivotal partnerships with summer opportunities all of our students can take part in. The first is ForgedEd, where students for three weeks design (and get stipends for designing!) SEL curricula for Middle Schoolers. They explore topics like social media, climate change, and peer pressure. Teaching Assistants should be prepared to talk about these topics with students, help guide their presentations, and provide critical feedback to the ForgedEd instructor to ensure students are getting what they need. The second is Learn2Lead, a two-week program through MD Anderson, where students are paired with a mentor, hear captivating presentations, grow their leadership skills, and complete a capstone project to present at the end. Teaching Assistants will facilitate learning, meet 1:1 with students, and be pivotal in the continuation of the program in years to come.
 - When Teaching Assistants are not contributing to the success of our two partnership programs, they will be assisting students at other grade-level programming, including the College Application Workshop, Freshman Seminar (where rising 9th grade students

learn the skills they will need to tackle high school), and the Junior Symposium (where rising 11th grade students present on the summer opportunities they were a part of).

This full-time summer opportunity is ideal for individuals who are excited to learn how to guide seniors through their college applications, assist with programming needs, maintain partnerships with other organizations, and spread the joy of learning.

Qualifications:

- **Be a U.S. citizen, or U.S. national or lawful permanent resident of the United States**
- **Be at least 17 years old**
- **Have a commitment to community service and the ability to serve for the complete program term (June 2, 2025 - July 30, 2025)**
- **Understanding of systemic barriers, youth trends, and lives experience:** Breakthrough Houston primarily serves first-generation to college, BIPOC youth from low-income and/or immigrant families, and others who have been historically underrepresented by our systems.

Knowledge, Skills, And Abilities

- **Effective communication skills**
- **Excellent organizational and time management skills**
- **Ability to follow through**
- **Flexibility and openness to changing roles**
- **Ability to work cooperatively on a team**
- **Respond well to constructive criticism**
- **Effective academic support and mentoring skills**
- **Willingness to learn and attend all AmeriCorps trainings**
- **Commitment to working with youth and to service**
- **Ability to manage several concurrent issues and solve problems effectively**
- **Ability to complete paperwork and meet deadlines**
- **Bilingual (Spanish) strongly preferred**

To Apply:

Please follow [this link](#) to submit your Teaching Assistant application TODAY! Be prepared with the following for your application:

- Personal and contact info
- Your professional resume
- Contact information for a recommender
- Three short-answer questions
- Teaching preferences

If you would like to be a Houston Teaching Assistant, please select Breakthrough Houston as your first choice! If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel Soderstrom at rsoderstrom@breakthroughhouston.org.

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, BTH is committed to providing employment opportunities to all individuals and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, marital status, veteran status, pregnancy, or any other basis prohibited by applicable law.