



# *Volunteer Opportunities*

*2021*

## **Our Mission**

College Access Partnership®, a 501(c)3 corporation, is dedicated to providing necessary educational services to low-income, college-bound students who would benefit from college counseling, mentoring, test prep, tutoring and scholarships. It is our purpose to collaborate with students, parents, and schools to safeguard student rights and equal access to the educational institutions to which they are applying.



## **A Word of Thanks**

It is with a great sense of hopefulness for our shared future that we launched College Access Partnership, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support to low and middle-income college-bound students who need assistance navigating college admissions and paying for their college education. It is no secret that the college admissions process and the high cost of a college education are obstacles for many deserving students. These obstacles often cause students and their families to simply “give up” the pursuit of their dreams or incur burdensome debt if the students attend college. By offering your time and expertise to our students, you are making an impact that can change lives. We are sincerely grateful for your partnership in assisting students from underserved communities further their education and follow their dreams.

***Sue Slotnick***  
Sue Slotnick, CEO

## **Types of Volunteer Opportunities**

College Access Partnership offers a number of volunteer opportunities, depending on a volunteer's interests, strengths, and availability. We offer training to all our volunteers to insure that our volunteers are informed and equipped to be successful. Some examples include:

- College Counselor
- Mentor
- Academic Tutor
- Essay Coach

### **What is a College Counselor?**

College counselors assist students with the college application process. This process begins with creating an appropriate college list and includes assisting students with staying organized, on task, and successfully completing their applications.

### **What is a Mentor?**

A mentor is an advocate and support for a student. Mentors provide an adult presence in a student's life to offer guidance and encouragement. Mentors check in with their mentees on a regular basis and are ready to help out when needed.

### **What is a Tutor?**

We believe that our tutors offer more than academic instruction. They are reliable and caring adults who provide emotional, psychological, and academic support. We view our tutors as specialized mentors, and therefore may use the terms *tutor* and *mentor* interchangeably.

## **What is an Essay Coach?**

College applications require essay writing. Our essay coaches are available to help with drafting and editing personal statements and supplemental essays. While essay coaches have their initial meetings with their students via Zoom, most of the editing work happens online via Google Docs.

## **Expectations for Volunteers**

As a volunteer with the College Access Partnership, I am agreeing that I will:

- Complete all training required.
- Commit to participating as a volunteer to my student for a minimum of one admissions cycle, with a willingness to consider continuation beyond that, recognizing the importance of continuity and support.
- Be in contact with my student regularly.
- Complete all mentor screening outlined in the College Access Partnership Mentor Screening Policy.
- Always act as a good role model with appropriate dress, language and behavior.
- Support my student as he/she works towards his/her goals.

## **Accepted to the Volunteer Program - What Can I Expect?**

Once you have been accepted into the College Access Partnership Volunteer Program, you will be matched with a student. Once the match has been made, here's what to expect.

1. A Zoom orientation and training with Lisa Kurstin will be scheduled. We are committed to offering as much training as is necessary to our volunteers; We do not expect a volunteer to begin working with a student before she/he feels confident.
2. You will be notified that you have been matched with a student. You will be provided with a brief summary of the student's background and current academic needs.
3. A first meeting, called "Meet and Greet," will be scheduled. This first meeting with the student is hosted and led by Lisa and is a time to introduce the volunteer and student, to set a meeting schedule, and to ensure that all expectations are realistic and clear.

## **How to Apply**

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with College Access Partnership, we invite you to [apply online](#).