



ABOUT JUMPSTART

Jumpstart is a national early education organization that recruits and trains college students and community volunteers to work with preschool children in low-income neighborhoods. Through a proven curriculum, these children develop the language and literacy skills they need to be ready for school, setting them on a path to close the achievement gap before it is too late. Join us to work toward the day every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed. Learn more at www.jstart.org.

ABOUT THE POSITION

Jumpstart Corps members have the unique opportunity to inspire young children to learn, serve in a local community, work on a team, and build professional skills. All Corps members receive professional-caliber training to help them implement Jumpstart's outcome-based program, promote children's school success, and build family involvement.

JUMPSTART CORPS MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Corps members complete an intensive commitment and make a substantial impact in the life of a young child. During the school year, Corps members serve 200/300 hours (8-12 hours per week) by fulfilling the following responsibilities:

- Team-based activities – the activities below are fulfilled during pre-determined, consistent times every week (either **Tuesday AND Thursday from 2pm-5:30pm or 2:30pm-6pm OR Wednesday AND Friday 2pm-5:30pm or 2:30pm-6pm**):
 - Implement Jumpstart sessions (including reading, play-based learning activities, etc.) with a team of Corps Members in a preschool classroom
 - Participate in team planning meetings and session preparation. This includes planning, reflection, working with other Corps members to reflect on and plan for weekly sessions.
- Individual activities:
 - Provide 2-5 hours of individual service in a preschool classroom outside of team activities, assisting teachers with children's activities and daily classroom routines.
 - Complete at least 1 hour of individual planning and preparation for sessions and other activities. This includes preparing children's books and gathering materials for activities.
 - Able to demonstrate effective reading skills in English in order to participate in the Jumpstart program. Includes reading session plans and training manuals.
 - Able to demonstrate effective writing skills in English in order to participate in the Jumpstart program. Includes writing reflections and responses to questions in training.
- Pre-service and on-going trainings
 - **Pre-service Training** - professional development throughout September and early October, 2015 (tentatively scheduled to begin Sept. 15th or 16th)
 - **AmeriCorps Show-Me Conference** – Saturday, October 10th, 9am-4pm
 - **CPR/1st Aid Training** – Saturday, November 7th from 9am-12:30pm **OR** Sunday, November 8th from 9am-12:30pm (you only need to attend one of these CPR dates)
 - **Winter FTI** – Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 9am-5pm
 - **Beyond Your Jumpstart Service training** – Saturday, April 23, 2016 from 9am-1pm

- Attend periodic service days, often held on weekends
- Able to transport him/herself to service site in a timely and reliable fashion

In the classroom

- Able to interact with children at their level in a classroom setting with high activity and noise levels. Interaction includes being able to move around the classroom to participate in various activities with the children.
- Able to see both print and illustrations in order to read children's books.
- Able to demonstrate effective reading skills in English in order to implement the Jumpstart program. Includes reading children's books, song charts, and materials in the classroom.
- Able to use effective writing skills in English to implement the Jumpstart program. Includes writing children's names and demonstrating how to write words and letters for children.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Dedication to early childhood education

- Experience with young children, and/or a desire to learn more about early childhood education
- Strong language and communication skills
- Ability to communicate and collaborate with children's families
- Willingness to learn about session implementation and planning
- Willingness to implement Jumpstart's research based curriculum with integrity

Commitment to service

- Community service experience and/ or a desire to serve in the community
- Ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds
- Ability to fulfill a yearlong community service commitment
- Enthusiastic and positive attitude toward helping others

Professionalism

- Ability to work well on a team to collaborate, communicate, and problem solve
- Desire to seek opportunities for self and team growth
- Willingness to receive and provide feedback in an effort to improve quality of one's service
- Availability, dependability, and willingness to be flexible in different contexts, such as in training, scheduling, in the classroom, with unexpected changes
- Professionalism and good judgment in relating to peers, children, partners, and families

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- Potential to earn a Federal Work-Study award during term of service
- AmeriCorps members will be eligible to receive a [Segal AmeriCorps Education Award](#) upon completion of their service term based on the hours commitment level
- Extensive training in the field of early childhood education
- Unique opportunity to join a national network of individuals serving young children
- Invaluable opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young children

Jumpstart is available to all, without regard to race, ethnicity, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran status, religion, or other legally protected status as recognized by federal, state, or local law.

Consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act, applicants may request accommodations needed to participate in the application process. Please contact Silvina Munita at munitas@umkc.edu for more information.