



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, collaborate with others on a team, and build professional skills. All Corps members receive high quality training to help them implement Jumpstart's outcome-based program, promote children's school success, and build family involvement. This position serves vulnerable populations, i.e. preschool children.

CORPS MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Essential Functions

Team-based activities- the activities below are fulfilled during pre-determined, consistent times every week (**Tuesday AND Thursday from 2:00pm-6pm OR Wednesday AND Friday 2pm-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.

Overall

- Able to verbally communicate with peers, Jumpstart staff, children, families and classroom teachers.
- Able to arrange his/ her own transportation 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 and other varying environmental conditions. Interaction includes being able to move around the classroom to participate in various activities with the children.
- Able to participate fully in 2-5 additional hours in classroom assistance time, which involves activities such as assisting teachers with children's activities and engaging children in outdoor play. This participation involves working with preschool-age children and other adults in a preschool classroom.
- Able to see both print and illustrations in order to read children's books.

Outside the classroom

Training:

- Pre-service and on-going trainings
 - Pre-Service training will take place during your session time slot **starting the week of 9/12/16**. Trainings are delivered in a variety of formats (such as lectures, PowerPoint presentations, small group discussions, and role plays), with other Corps members in a training room.
 - **CPR/1st Aid Training** – 11/5 or 11/6
 - **Winter FTI** – Saturday, February 4, 2017 from 9am-5pm
- **Beyond Your Jumpstart Service training** – Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 9am-1pm

Planning and Preparation:

- Able to complete 1+ hours weekly of individual planning and preparation for Jumpstart sessions. This includes preparing children's books, writing reflection papers on Jumpstart service, and gathering materials for session activities.

Skills:

- 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 written responses to questions in training.

Other:

- Attend periodic service days, often held on weekends

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Dedication to early childhood education

- Experience working 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 in the program
- 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 Jumpstart 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 300 hour service term
- 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 **Ashley Huff**, huffal@umkc.edu for more information.