Higher Achievement, a nationally acclaimed nonprofit organization working to close the achievement gap for motivated, yet underserved students from low-income communities, seeks Summer Teachers for its six week Summer Academy serving middle school scholars in Richmond, Virginia.

This is a full-time, intensive seven-week paid position lasting for the duration of Higher Achievement’s Summer Academy. Teachers attend a one-week orientation and training from June 20-24, with Summer Academy occurring June 27th to August 4th. Using Higher Achievement's progressive, skills-based curriculum, teachers are responsible for preparing for and teaching three to five classes of middle school-aged scholars in one or two subject areas per day (math, science, social studies, or literature).

Teachers work with middle school scholars from under-resourced neighborhoods who have applied to and been selected for the program. In addition to classroom time, teachers are responsible for: lesson planning, homeroom leadership, daily staff meetings, and supervising scholars during lunch, recreation time, and field trips (including a three-day overnight trip to a college or university). Additionally, teachers complete an evaluation for each scholar during the summer. This intense and rewarding position requires a strong commitment and a positive, can-do attitude.

The Organization
Higher Achievement believes that talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not. We work to close the achievement gap for motivated - yet underserved - students from low-income communities. We intervene during the critical transition to middle school by providing year-round, multi-year support for students in the 5th – 8th grades. As students prepare to graduate from our program in the 8th grade, we help them transition successfully to advanced high school programs that keep students on track for college. On average, 95% of Higher Achievement scholars graduate high school on time.

Founded in 1975 in Washington, DC, as a grassroots effort to create learning opportunities for children in low-income neighborhoods, Higher Achievement has impacted the lives of more than 10,000 young people and currently operates achievement centers in Washington, DC, Alexandria, VA, Baltimore, MD, Pittsburgh, PA, and Richmond, VA. Higher Achievement's award-winning model of rigorous academic mentoring, individualization of services, and comprehensive academic support is guided by leading research for effective out-of-school time programs. More information about Higher Achievement may be found at: http://www.higherachievement.org.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

• Prepare and execute engaging daily lesson plans and activities for scholars using the curricula provided by Higher Achievement
• Adapt lesson plans to suit diverse scholar needs while assessing and supporting scholar strengths
• Implement Higher Achievement's high standards of a Learning Community in the classroom by maintaining high expectations for scholars, praising their hard work, and issuing incentives and consequences when necessary
• Reinforce Higher Achievement's philosophies and positive work culture with scholars
• Implement a youth development approach, characterized by respectful interactions with scholars, youth participation and input, and a consideration of youth developmental needs when addressing discipline (training will be provided)
• Work collaboratively with fellow Summer Academy teachers and staff to share best practices around lesson planning, classroom management, and academic goals
• Supervise groups of as many as 25 scholars on weekly field trips to locations across the region and on one three-day, overnight trip to a university
• Complete evaluations on all scholars at end of Summer Academy

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

Qualifications

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

• Commitment to the mission and work of Higher Achievement
• Classroom teaching experience with middle school aged students strongly preferred
• Minimum of 2 years of college required; rising college juniors and seniors welcome to apply
• Experience managing groups of youth required
• Must be energetic, flexible, and culturally sensitive with a positive youth development approach
• Bilingual speakers, especially in Spanish or Amharic, encouraged to apply
• Strong oral and written communication skills required

Compensation and Benefits: This is a seasonal, full-time, exempt position with a salary commensurate with skills, experience, and certifications. No company benefits are offered outside of those required by state and federal laws.

Physical Requirements and Work Environment: Work is regularly performed in a school setting, with weekly trips off-site to parks, museums, etc. Employee may spend long periods of time sitting, standing, and walking. Must be able to walk from one part of the worksite to another and climb stairs. Employee regularly lifts, carries, and positions objects weighing up to 20 pounds. Position involves regular face-to-face communication in small and large group settings with youth and adults; employee must be able to communicate clearly and professionally in this manner. Employee must have visual, auditory, and physical ability to respond quickly to critical incidents involving students and act in an emergency situation.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Additional Information: This position includes six weeks of full-time work with scholars and one week of training; applicants should only apply if they can commit to the full seven weeks. All summer teachers must chaperone the three day, overnight college trip during the last week of Summer Academy. Programming occurs in multiple locations; candidates should indicate which sites they are interested in being placed at during the application process, and efforts will be made to place all selected candidates at sites of their choosing. Professionals in all disciplines encouraged to apply. This position requires a criminal background check prior to hire, and candidate must be able to pass all additional clearance requirements as mandated by school districts and state/local municipalities.

To Apply: Please submit your resume and cover letter through the link below. Priority consideration will be given to applicants who address the listed qualifications and their interest in the mission and work of Higher Achievement. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply immediately; the position will remain open until all spots are filled. Please, no phone calls, emails or recruiters.

Higher Achievement provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sex, gender identity or expression, age, medical condition, sexual orientation, marital status, citizenship, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, military status, caregiver or family status, political affiliation, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

Apply for Job