

Teaching as Service



How will my service make an impact?

To date, over 200 VTC members have served in Chicago schools. In addition to bringing dedicated, energetic young teachers into the classroom, savings created by their simple lifestyle choices have provided over \$1,000,000 in scholarship funds. Over 25,000 children have been taught thus far.

Which schools are Corps members placed in?

VTC members will most likely be placed at Catholic schools in underserved areas on the South and West sides of Chicago. The students at these schools are mostly African American or Latino.

What grade levels can I teach?

Most of our Corps members teach in grades 1-8. You may be eligible for pursuing a secondary education certificate as part of your training at Northwestern if you have a Math or Science background, and therefore would be placed in a high school. Please inquire with our Director of Teacher Preparation to see if that could be a possibility for you.

How do you decide which grade level I will be teaching?

During the interview process you will be asked to fill out an applicant questionnaire listing the grade level and subject areas you are most interested in teaching. We will do our best to place you within the grade levels that you list. If this is not possible, you will be consulted before any placement decisions are made.

Can I coach or sponsor extracurricular activities at my school?

Many Corps members are involved in extracurricular activities at their schools, for example, coaching sports teams, starting school newspapers, moderating student councils, organizing book clubs, or directing plays. \$500 per year is available to each Corps member to support extracurricular activities at their school.

What resources are available for my classroom?

Each Corps member receives \$50 per month to purchase and maintain classroom supplies. Corps members are also encouraged to use our Resource Center. Located in the ICTC office, it is full of teaching materials, and also includes a laminator, letter-cutter, and copier specifically for your use.

On Teaching...

“Teaching has been both an amazing gift and an incredible opportunity for me to realize how much we are needed in inner-city schools. These children are depending on us to be the change they deserve, and every day something improves just enough to convince me that this change is possible.”

Kate Noonan, VTC Class of 2006

“The best thing about teaching is the smiles. I get to enable students to smile when they grasp a concept or when they happen upon a new idea on their own. I get to see the smiles of parents when they realize their child has found success or when they see that I have confidence in their child’s possibility for success.”

Jessica Michael, VTC Class of 2006