

Teaching Assistant Application
BASIS Oro Valley, Tucson AZ
Academic Year: 2017-2018

What is a teaching assistant and what do they do?

Teaching assistants help teachers with all the details involved in running a class which can vary depending on the teacher and class. In general, a teaching assistant is there to assist the teacher. This may involve, but is not limited too, grading assignments and assessments, holding student and/or tutoring hours, running review sessions, writing assessment questions or problem sets, organization and classroom set up, and possibly teaching class (option for senior teaching assistants).

As a teaching assistant you can be the students greatest ally because you've already made it through the class. Now you get to share your wisdom, tricks, and insights to help others learn the material and succeed.

How many hours does a teaching assistant work and what are the expectations?

The expectation is that teaching assistants work about three hours each week. This can fluctuate depending on your schedule and class load as a student. You are a student first and would be teaching assistant second. This means if you have loads of homework or lots of exams one week then the teaching assistant work hours can be scale down for that week. On the other hand, if you have more time and are enjoying the work of a teaching assistant then we can look at increasing the work hours.

When do I need to be available to work?

Being a teaching assistant should never interfere with your classes so you would make a schedule with the teacher based on what works for you both. These hours would fall before or after the regular school day and could be in or out of the teacher's student hours.

Why you should be a teaching assistant

You only truly learn a concept when you can teach it to someone else. As a teaching assistant you have the opportunity to help others learn and succeed while you yourself learn the material better than you did as a student. You are given a platform on which you can improve and hone all forms of communication, through writing feedback on homework assignments to verbal explanations of a concept.

One of the greatest things to see as a teacher are students who improve through hard work, persevere and reach those "light bulb" moments of understanding. In being a teaching assistant you get a taste of this excitement. Furthermore, you get to see and be apart of all the action that goes on behind the scenes of a class.

Please submit completed application to Mrs. Dicken.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Grade: _____

Class you wish to TA for: _____

Please answer the following questions:

1. Why do you want to be a teaching assistant?

2. What makes a great math class?

3. As a student, what would you expect from a teaching assistant?

4. What would make you a great teaching assistant?

5. Please list all your classes for next year and indicate any that are AP.