

GreatSchools DC Coach Corps (GS DCCC) Volunteer Opportunity

The GreatSchools' mission is to improve K-12 education by inspiring parents to get involved by:

- Encouraging and supporting selective school choosing
- Fostering parenting behavior that supports high student achievement

The volunteer coach's role is to introduce skills and knowledge that will help parents make good school choices:

- Teach parents to use the GreatSchools *DC School Chooser*, tools and Web site
- Help parents create their own step-by-step plan for researching schools and making a choice
- Encourage and support parents through the selection, application and enrollment process

And be mindful of the "coach's rules of the road:"

- You are a guide, not decision-maker
- You explain information and help parents create their own work plan
- You check in, encourage progress, rethink challenges and cheer successes

Specific obligations:

- Work with no more than five families (if some families move faster, you can request additional assignments, but we will never give you more than five at any one time)
- Attend one coaches training (exact times and locations TBA)
- Be willing to accompany parents on school visits
- Assist in completing applications as needed
- Track the parents you do work with and submit information to GreatSchools DC at completion of your work (tracking sheet will be provided)
- If you want to donate additional time, we always need volunteers at any community event where GreatSchools DC has a table (especially if you are bilingual)

How you are matched with parents:

- As calls are received on the parent hotlines, you will get assignments
- Request to work with parents in a specific ward or school (will work to accommodate requests)
- Work with parents you already know through your job, religious institution or other volunteer programs in which you take part

We are also looking for coaches who have a second language (specifically Spanish, but also looking for others) so we can best serve as many parents as possible. This year our printed materials and parent hotlines are provided in English and Spanish.

If you have additional questions or want to sign up, please contact Tamika Joyner, Project Manager by phone: 202-450-5278 or via email: tjoyner@greatschools.org. We look forward to having you join us!