



Breakthrough
of Greater Philadelphia

34 West Coulter Street
Philadelphia, PA 19144
Phone 215.951.2398
Fax 215.951.2397
info@breakthroughphilly.org
www.breakthroughphilly.org

The Most Meaningful Eight Weeks of your Life!

Breakthrough is committed to providing low-income middle schools students with the skills for success. We provide our students an enrichment experience to prepare them for academically rigorous high schools and beyond! By entrusting college and high school students with the job of teaching, Breakthrough allows young people to create a positive learning environment filled with excitement, academic challenges and inspiration.

What makes Breakthrough's summer and school year program unique?

Students are taught by a faculty composed entirely of high school and college students like you! With support from professional educators, Breakthrough high school and college teachers are responsible for lesson planning, teaching, advising, and program administration.

Why are young people teaching?

There are no better role models for Breakthrough students than the motivated faculty members who teach them. The faculty members are strong students themselves who have a love for learning. Breakthrough students grow by knowing their teachers, who are fellow learners and friends. The energy, commitment, and vitality that the faculty brings to the program are at the heart of Breakthrough.

Why should you teach?

You'll gain teaching experience.

You will be the teacher! With support and direction from your director(s), dean of students, and mentor teachers, you and your colleagues will be responsible for running the entire program.

You'll be a valued mentor.

If you choose to commit yourself to Breakthrough for the summer, you'll not only be a teacher, but a mentor, as well. Breakthrough students grow by knowing their teachers. You'll serve as a teacher, role model, and mentor simultaneously.

You'll share your love for learning.

There are no better role models for Breakthrough students than the motivated faculty members who teach them. You will ensure that students learn inside and outside of the classroom, at lunch, in the hallways, and in after-school activities.

Who are Breakthrough Teachers?

Breakthrough teachers are creative, intelligent, diverse.

Breakthrough teachers are talented high school and college students from around the country. They are bright, passionate, creative, and intrigued by learning and teaching— even if they are not necessarily planning to become teachers.

Breakthrough teachers are ALL high school & college students.

All applicants are students -- from high school sophomores to college seniors -- who are high academic achievers and passionate about learning and teaching.

Breakthrough /Breakthrough teachers are active learners.

Our teachers are dedicated to creating an active learning environment for each other and their students. Most have never taught before, but all are able to learn to foster learning inside and outside the classroom.

Teacher Commitment and Responsibilities

You'll teach the classes and so much more!

At Breakthrough, you're not an assistant or aide in a classroom —you're the teacher.

- ◆ Teachers commit to one summer. During the summer, it will be your responsibility to:
- ◆ Teach up to three academic classes and one elective.
- ◆ Participate in ongoing reflection about the work, the students, the program, and your personal involvement.
- ◆ Be an active, positive role model for the students in the program.
- ◆ Work with students' families to best serve the needs of their children.

Academic classes are at the core of the Breakthrough day

Literature, writing, math, science, social studies.

Faculty members are responsible for planning, teaching, and evaluating their own morning academic classes. It's typical to teach two or three classes, but depending on the program, you may team teach a class or teach fewer classes for longer periods.

Propose and teach your own academic electives

Such as African American History, Korean, Native American Poetry.

In addition to core courses, you may also teach an academic elective of your own design. Because Breakthrough courses are meant to provide students with the tools that they need to succeed in a college-preparatory, high school environment, these rigorous courses emphasize writing, critical thinking, and study skills.

Along with MTV and the White House, Breakthrough has been repeatedly featured in the Princeton Review's List of Top 10 Internships for teens and college students!

If you are interested in joining the Breakthrough community and working to instill a love of learning and the skills necessary for our students to thrive in middle school and beyond, contact Farish Sawyer at fsawyer@sju.edu or at 215-951-2398 for more information, or go to www.breakthroughcollaborative.org.