Service Opportunities

Thank you for your interest in working with the College of Education at Temple University to provide our students with unique opportunities to support our community. Please complete this form to share your proposed project.

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Contact Person
Preferred E-mail

The LINC: Learning in New Contexts / School District of Philadelphia

Company/Institution

122 W. Erie Avenue
Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Philadelphia PA 19140
City State Zip Code

Brief Organizational Background

The LINC is non-selective School District of Philadelphia (SDP) managed high school opening in the fall of 2014 with 115 freshmen. The school’s mission is to provide a personalized, competency-based learning environment open to all students where 100% of students graduate within 3-5 years ready to enter a four-year college without the need for remediation. Dr. Saliyah Cruz designed the school in collaboration with SDP’s Office of New School Models and will assume the role of principal.

The LINC’s design was informed by listening sessions with students and stakeholders across Philadelphia and research from the Carnegie Foundation on successful school models. The result is a school that will emphasize 21st century skills and global competencies. It will tailor its curriculum to the pace, needs, and interests of each student through the deployment of a competency framework in all subjects and an intensive advisory period. In addition, students will be encouraged to act as positive leaders of change in their communities as they explore their identity, examine issues in their community, and devise solutions to address those issues.

Range of Services (i.e. tutoring, discrete workshops, research, etc)

The LINC will serve 115 freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. It will grow each year until reaching capacity at 450 students. It will offer students a curriculum that meets Pennsylvania state standards and graduation requirements. It will also prepare students for entry into a post-secondary institution by offering counseling and other services.

Population Served (i.e. demographics, age range, educational level, cultural background, etc.). Please include other relevant information.

All LINC students will be high school freshmen during the 2014-2015 academic year. As a non-selective (“neighborhood”) high school there were not any admission criteria for entering students. An overwhelming expression of interest necessitated a blind lottery weighted toward the communities immediately surrounding the school. 50% of students will come from the ten zip codes surrounding the 19140 area while the other 50% of the students will be drawn from the rest of Philadelphia.
Brief Description of Proposed Activity

Student interns will provide support to LINC students in need of additional writing instruction. On a regular basis, Temple students would be available to offer identified LINC students 1-1 writing support. These sessions would allow LINC students to receive feedback on a particular piece of writing they are currently work-shopping for one of their classes.

Main Expectations of student interns (i.e. time commitment, frequency, duration, etc.) Please specify type of students required (undergraduate, graduate, & specific educational discipline if necessary).

Undergraduate or graduate students would be welcome. However, students with a background in writing, English, and/or teaching writing and English would be preferred given the nature of the opportunity. The student interns would commit to working at The LINC weekly on a day and time period that is negotiable. It may be determined that their presence would be most effective during the school day (9 am – 4 pm) or that their presence would be most effective as part of an after-school tutoring initiative (after 4 pm).

Benefit to Students

Temple student interns would have the opportunity to work directly with Philadelphia students. They would gain instructional experience in teaching writing as they worked closely with LINC students. As a result, they could refine their instructional techniques while employing different teaching strategies in a small instructional environment. Furthermore, the smaller scale of the sessions would offer the student interns an opportunity to develop relationships with students over time, a prospect that could create a mentorship dynamic.

Benefit to Organization

The LINC would benefit from the student interns because its students would receive additional writing support. Writing is an essential academic skill, but it is a time-intensive discipline to teach and develop. With more help on-site, more students would receive help and personalized instruction from both student interns and LINC staff, thereby facilitating the academic advancement of a larger number of students.

Service Location

All writing support sessions would occur at The LINC, 122 W. Erie Avenue.

Materials/resources to student interns (i.e. curricula, library, IT, & other community resources)

Temple student interns would be in contact with teachers at the LINC to identify the students in need of additional support. The LINC teachers would then supply student interns with information about particular areas in need of improvement, recent writing assignments, and other pertinent information. LINC would ensure students are arriving to sessions with the materials necessary to receive instructional assistance and would designate a regular space for the purpose.

Please send your completed form to Attn. Patricia Lehrman, Special Assistant to the Dean for Strategic Partnerships and Community Affairs, via e-mail: patience@temple.edu or mail to: 266 Ritter Hall, 1301 Cecil B. Moore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19122. We look forward to working with you!