Why be a Language Tutor?

Help Others
Most of our tutors will tell you that this is one of the best jobs on campus because of the satisfaction they derive from helping others learn. They find that there is nothing quite like the thrill of seeing the light bulb go on when a student overcomes challenges with their course material.

Develop Marketable Skills
Being a tutor helps you develop a variety of skills that employers find highly desirable. These include communication, interpersonal, organizational, leadership, time-management, ethics, and the ability to work in groups and help others learn. Good tutors can also receive excellent references and letters of recommendation from the center supervisor when applying for scholarships, internships, graduate programs, and other employment opportunities.

Achieve National Certification
Our tutors receive paid training that prepares them to achieve national tutor certification, which looks great on a resume!

A Convenient Schedule
Your schedule will fit your availability. We have flexible hours throughout the week and work with you to find the best fit.
Frequently Asked Questions about Being a Language Tutor:

What does a Language Tutor Do?
Peer Tutors work directly with John Jay students in small-group tutoring sessions that last an hour. In addition, they may conduct workshops with larger groups or work with students in special programs on a one-on-one basis. Not only do they help students master course content, but they also assist students in developing the skills and strategies they need to become active, independent learners. Tutors work a consistent schedule between 4 and 20 hours per week in-person & online (when applicable) during the center’s hours of operation. New tutors are limited to no more than 8-10 hours per week in their first semester.

What if I don’t know how to tutor?
Although previous tutoring experience is desirable, most of our tutors have never tutored before. They are selected on the basis of academic achievement, language proficiency, interpersonal and communication skills, and personal qualities such as responsibility, integrity, and concern for others. We provide comprehensive training for new tutors before they begin working as well as ongoing training and support to help them fully develop their skills and abilities.

What are the qualifications?
To become a Language Tutor, you must:
- Communicate at the 200 level course or higher natively or through an assessment of our placement exam
- Overall GPA of at least 3.0
- Dependable, punctual, and self-motivated
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Work at least 4 hours per week consistently throughout the semester
- Available to attend paid training and staff meetings
- Preferred current Graduate students who meet the above criteria
- Ability to work a hybrid or online/remote schedule when applicable

How do I get paid?
Tutors are paid by the college as College Assistants. The current starting rate of pay is $15 per hour. Although tutoring is appointment-based, peer tutors are paid according to their weekly work schedules whether there are appointments scheduled or not. Time not filled by appointments is generally spent taking walk-ins, visiting classes, reviewing course content, completing training activities, or helping out with clerical/administrative tasks.

How do I apply?
To apply to become a language tutor, you must submit the following documents:
- MLC Tutor Application
- Resume w/ minimum two references
- At least one Recommendation Letter
- Transcript(s) of all language coursework (if applicable)
- Complete the MLC Placement Exam

Qualified applicants will participate in a formal interview shortly before the beginning of the fall or spring semester. See our website for details.

What courses can I tutor?
You can tutor any course on the following list in which you have demonstrated proficiency in.

- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Portuguese
- Spanish

Scan QR code below to apply online

Modern Language Center Supervisor
Manuel Chaparro, MSEd
7.64 NB
mchaparro@jjay.cuny.edu