EAL Peer Educator Volunteer Description

Description & Responsibilities

SLC English as an Additional Language (EAL) Peer Educators support student learning by serving as English conversation partners and workshop facilitators. This position starts in the Fall 2020 term. All volunteer activities are scheduled through the Student Learning Commons and delivered remotely. As an EAL Peer Educator, you will:

- be paired with 2-3 multilingual students and meet with each one individually for one hour per week to help them practice and improve their English conversation skills over the course of 10 weeks (the exact times of these meetings to be determined based on your availability/schedule)
- co-facilitate the weekly English conversation workshops Let’s Talk! or Plurilingual Café (times based on your availability/schedule)
- volunteer for events such as the Campus Service, Resource Fair, and/or international student orientation to promote EAL supports and services offered by the Library and Student Learning Commons

This program is a part of Peer Education, a collaboration with Student Engagement & Retention at SFU.

Time Commitment & Benefits

Peer Educators commit to volunteering for two (2) terms; however, these terms do not need to be consecutive. This role requires approximately 60 to 72 hours per term starting in the Fall term. The second term could be a Fall, Spring, or Summer term. You are encouraged to continue volunteering for longer than 2 terms if desired.

Mandatory Online Training

- 6 hours of online preparation for Core Training (content that all Peer Educators cover)
  - Available in August and must be completed before Core Training
- 3 hours of Core Training (all programs)
  - TBA
- 3 hours of asynchronous EAL specific training (Canvas)
- 4 hours of synchronous EAL specific core training (Zoom)
  - Saturday September 12, 2020, 12:00 pm-2:00 pm and 3:00-5:00 pm

Required Meetings

- Ongoing Online Training
  - Bi-weekly Tuesdays, 4:30 pm-5:30 pm (Zoom)

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1 Multilingual students is a broad term that at SFU refers to international students, recent immigrants, or long term residents who speak English as an Additional Language.
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Benefits of being an EAL Peer Educator:

- Gain valuable experience for your resume and career development (e.g., teaching English overseas)
- Meet like-minded students, work as a team, and become a role model for other students
- Contribute to the SFU community by providing support, assistance, and information to other students
- Benefit academically by applying acquired skills to school

Opportunity Requirements

What we are looking for in our EAL Peers

- Current SFU student in Good Academic Standing (minimum CGPA 2.0)
- Reliable, responsible, and committed to the program
- Genuine desire to provide support, assistance, and leadership to other students
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Good conversationalist (This website) by Lisa Metrikin provides the following essential qualities of a good conversationalist:
  - Listen
  - Be present
  - Embrace silence
  - Take genuine interest
  - Ask better questions
  - Deepen the conversation
  - Read widely
  - Discuss, don’t debate
  - Cultivate a diverse circle