

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What would I be doing?** Volunteer tutors provide weekly instruction in one of the following basic skills: reading, writing, math, or English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Volunteers also help students with skills related to personal literacy needs and goals such as letter writing or job applications. Generally tutors are placed with an adult student and work in a one-on-one or small group situation. Volunteers do not need to speak a foreign language.

**How long does it take?** Tutors are asked to meet with their student at least once a week. A typical class lasts between forty-five minutes to an hour and a half. A minimum of two hours per week is needed to be an effective tutor. A tutors needs to plan lessons and travel to and from their tutoring site. Generally, with instruction time, this takes about two hours per week.

### **Where does tutoring take place?**

Tutoring takes places in numerous locations throughout Garfield County including Parachute, Rifle, Silt, New Castle, Glenwood Springs, and Carbondale. Many volunteers tutor in Colorado Mountain College buildings or at one the branches of the Garfield County Library System. Generally, tutors are placed with a student who lives in the same town as they do.

### **What are the qualifications needed to be a tutor?**

Volunteers must be able to read and write in English. They must have an interest in the subject area, believe that adults can learn, and have empathy for others. In addition enthusiasm, patience, willingness to accept other's differences and understand their needs. Volunteers must also respect the need for confidentiality.

### **Do I need to speak a foreign language to help?**

Volunteers do not need to speak a foreign language.

### **What if I have never taught before?**

Don't worry. We will train you.

**What kind of training will I need?** New volunteers are required to attend a one-hour informational session. In addition, nine hours of formal training are required. This training discusses the principals of adult learning, learning styles, culture, lesson planning, and many useful teaching techniques. Additional training is offered throughout the year to support your learner's needs.

### **Does it cost money?**

Volunteering is free. Students enrolling at Literacy Outreach pay a small registration fee every six months.

### **How do I get started?**

Come to an informational session or give us a call at (970) 945-5282.

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