



**Schuler Scholar Program  
AmeriCorps Scholar Coach  
2012-2013 School Year**

The Schuler Scholar Program (SSP), a non-profit private foundation based in the northern suburbs of Illinois, is offering to recent college graduates the opportunity to become a member of AmeriCorps, a network of local, state, and national service programs that connects more than 70,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet our country's critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment.

The Schuler Scholar Program is partnered with high schools in Lake and Cook County, Illinois, including Waukegan High School, Round Lake High School, Warren Township High School, Highland Park High School, St. Martin de Porres High School, and Maine East High School. The SSP runs independent of the school district but is based on each school campus. The SSP currently serves over 300 high school and 135 college Scholars.

The Schuler Scholar Program prepares under-resourced, high potential students to succeed at the most competitive private colleges and universities. Schuler Scholars are typically first generation college bound, come from under resourced families or communities and will need financial assistance in order to attend college. Many Scholars are from a population that is under represented on college campuses. To remain in the program, Scholars are required to take a rigorous courseload, maintain a minimum g.p.a. and participate in all Schuler programming.

**Position Description**

Coaches work with Scholars in one-on-one and group settings to provide subject specific tutoring and homework help. After school most coaches lead small group seminars on current events and literary works. Scholar Coaches coordinate and chaperone Scholar exposures (outings that give Scholars exposure to the arts, civic and cultural events and to the greater Chicagoland community) such as visits to the theatre, ballet, opera and museums. Large scale exposures include a Habitat for Humanity build out of state and a trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario.

Specific responsibilities can include, but are not limited to: conduct individualized reading improvement program for a caseload of 10-15 freshman and sophomore Scholars, update and monitor information in the Naviance software program, administer after school programs (2-3 times a week), assist Scholars with the summer college program application process, monitor ACT/SAT test prep courses, coordinate and chaperone events and college visits and participate in the annual scholar selection process. Coaches

will tailor tutoring, teaching style and delivery of programming to meet each student's individual strengths and weaknesses. Additionally, Coaches are given the opportunity to serve as a Program Coordinator. The Coordinator positions enable Coaches to perform work that is outside of their day-to-day responsibilities and closely aligned with their passions. Examples of Coordinator Positions include Social Action and Awareness, Newsletter and Website Development and College and Alumni Outreach.

Coaches are based at a partnership high school and report to the SSP School Director. Coaches collaborate with College Counselors, Educational Counselors and other Scholar Coaches. Coaches monitor Scholar educational, social and emotional development. Coaches receive training in order to deliver to students programs that focus on literacy, writing, science, decision making, time management and personal development. Coaches also meet bi-monthly to discuss professional development and are supervised by a staff of highly motivated, qualified business and educational leaders.

### **Qualifications**

Applicants must have a strong interest in education, education reform, social services, youth development, social justice or a related field. The ideal candidate has a passion to work with under resourced youth and families and has an appreciation for the value of a college degree from a highly competitive college or university. Coaches must possess strong leadership and interpersonal skills and must be able to concurrently manage multiple projects. Candidates must be able to work independently as well as in teams and efficiently manage time and resources. Other desirable skills include flexibility, perseverance and adaptability.

### **Additional Requirements**

Applicants must be a US Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident of the US and pass a criminal background check and DCFS CANTS check. A college degree is required. Coaches must have a cell phone with texting capabilities. All candidates must possess a valid driver's license. Owning or having access to a car is preferred since public transportation is not easily accessible.

### **Compensation**

In return for a 12 month (renewable for one additional year) commitment, Coaches receive an \$12,100/year living stipend, monthly phone and transportation stipend, paid health insurance, training in educational programming, use of a Schuler laptop, exposure to cultural activities in the Chicagoland area and professional development opportunities. All Scholar Coaches are required to live in Schuler provided group housing. In this arrangement, Coaches share common areas of a single family home or townhouse but have private bedrooms- all utilities are paid. House assignments are determined by SSP Staff. Coaches are reimbursed up to \$500 for relocation expenses for moves over 50 miles.

Full-time AmeriCorps members who complete their service (a minimum of 1700 hours) earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$5,550 to pay for graduate school or to pay back qualified student loans. During the term of service, college loans may be deferred.

### **Service Dates**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2012 – 2013 school year. The ideal applicant will be available to serve a two-year commitment. Qualified applicants must be able to relocate to the northern suburbs of Chicago no later than July 25, 2012 for a start date of July 26, 2012.

Qualified applicants must be able to attend/chaperone one session of Schuler Leadership Camp with the Schuler Scholars. 2012 Camp sessions are: May 29-June 10; June 3-16; June 8-20; June 30- July 13; July 29-August 10; August 2- 13. Transportation to and from camp will be provided. Coaches arrive a few days prior to start of the camp session for orientation.

### **Application Deadlines**

Resumes will be accepted between September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 or until all positions are filled. Upon receipt of resume, qualified candidates will be contacted regarding interviews. The interview process consists of up to 3 interviews: phone, Skype, and in-person. Final interview dates are tentatively scheduled for January 6th, 2012, March 2nd, 2012, and May 4th, 2012; applicants will be flown in and asked to participate in a half-day interview.

**Interested candidates should forward a resume to [amanda@schulerprogram.org](mailto:amanda@schulerprogram.org).  
For more information on the Foundation go to [www.schulerprogram.org](http://www.schulerprogram.org).  
For more information on the AmeriCorps program go to [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov).**