

Camp Reach 2009

Information for RETURNING Teaching Assistant (TA) Applicants

Program Dates: Sunday, July 19 (noon) – Friday, July 31, 2009(7:00pm)

TAs are expected to participate for the entire two-week program, including the trip to Cape Cod on the weekend of July 25-26.

Staff Orientation: Thursday, July 9, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Participation in staff orientation on this date is absolutely mandatory due to state regulations.

Application Process:

The application process is simpler for returning TAs; we do not ask for recommendation letters again, and there is just one essay question instead of four. Here is what you need to do:

1. Complete the application and have a parent or guardian sign the front of the form after reading this information sheet. By the **deadline of April 17**, mail the application to:

WPI Camp Reach
Office of Women's Programs
100 Institute Rd.
Worcester, MA 01609

2. Finalists for the TA positions may be asked to come to WPI for a group-format interview on either **Tuesday, April 28 from 6-7:30pm** or **Wednesday, April 29 from 6-7:30pm**. Please make note of those dates now in the event that you are invited for an interview. Applicants will be notified about final decisions by mid May.

Program Policies Related to TAs:

- Staff members are not allowed to invite outside guests to the residence hall or to campus during the program.
- In accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989, WPI prohibits the unlawful possession, use, and/or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on its property and/or as part of its activities.
- Smoking is forbidden in all WPI buildings, and we add our own rule that smoking is not allowed in view of campers.
- TAs are expected to be fully engaged in assisting and supervising campers between 8am-5pm, and in being a good role model at all times. *Being effective at the position requires hard work and dedication!*
- *TAs are not allowed to carry cell phones during the day or to use them in front of campers at any time.* Cell phones can be used during TAs' free time in the evenings. The reasoning behind this policy is that campers are not allowed to bring cell phones to camp. We also want to keep the focus on the program and the campers.
- Evening policies: The RAs will have supervisory responsibility for the campers and TAs will participate in activities with campers. TA's are expected to participate in the evening activities with the campers, unless you are not feeling well or have another reason for not participating. These reasons can be discussed with the After Hours Coordinator or an RA. "Signing out" as to their whereabouts is required, and TAs must sign back in to the residence hall by 9pm. To be consistent with other WPI programs for high school students, *TAs will not be allowed to leave campus on their*

own during free time in the evenings. Violation of this policy will result in expulsion from the program.

- Quiet time in the evening begins at 9pm. Lights out for campers is at 9:30pm, and for TAs is 11pm.
- With parental permission TAs will be taken off campus as a group by a senior staff member one night each week for an activity of their choice within the local area. The cost of these “TA Nights Out” will be covered by the program, as a token of our appreciation for this volunteer activity.

Violation of any of these policies may result in expulsion from the program.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Women’s Programs at (508) 831-5819 or e-mail reach@wpi.edu.

Camp Reach 2009

**APPLICATION for
Returning Teaching Assistants
Deadline: April 17, 2009**

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Town/City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail (if available): _____

Birthdate: _____

School: _____ Current Grade Level: _____

Would you be able to participate in an interview on the following dates?

Tuesday, April 28, 6-7:30pm: Yes No

Wednesday, April 29, 6-7:30pm: Yes No

Would you be able to attend Staff Orientation scheduled for Thursday, July 9? Yes No

Are you a Camp Reach alumna? Yes (Program Year: _____) No

Please indicate if you have participated in any other WPI outreach programs (e.g., GEMS Jr., GEMS, WUNDERS, Strive Jr., Strive, Frontiers): _____

Do you have an interest in being a commuting* TA? Yes No

**The usual and preferred option is for TAs to stay in the residence hall with campers. However, we will consider individual circumstances if you prefer to commute from home.*

Essay Question: Please attach a sheet providing a response to the following prompt:

Reflect back on your previous experience as a Camp Reach staff member. Discuss some of your successes and strengths as a Teaching Assistant as well as some areas that you would like to improve upon if you serve as a Teaching Assistant again in 2009. Include ways in which you were an effective or ineffective role model. Note that ability to identify areas for improvement in a self-critical way will be viewed as a positive in your application.

Agreement of Applicant:

I have read the Camp Reach program policies (see "Information for Returning Teaching Assistant Applicants") and agree to follow them if I am selected as a Teaching Assistant.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Endorsement of Parent or Guardian:

I have read the Camp Reach program policies (see "Information for Returning Teaching Assistant Applicants"), believe that my daughter is prepared to follow them, and support my daughter's application to serve as a Teaching Assistant for Camp Reach in the summer of 2009.

Parent's Name (printed): _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____