

Opportunities to Work with Youth

We strongly recommend students applying to the Teacher Education and Youth and Social Innovation programs seek out experiences working with youth. Although this list is certainly not exhaustive, it provides some ideas for general and specific ways you can engage with young people, both paid and volunteer.

Volunteer through Madison House. Check out their website to learn more about their Education Network and Youth Mentoring opportunities, including Cavs in the Classroom, Latinx and Migrant Aid, Tutoring, Big Siblings, and Coaching.

<https://www.madisonhouse.org/home>

Get involved with the Saturday and Summer Enrichment Programs, based here at the School of Education and Human Development! Many of our candidates enjoy working with these programs and find that they provide great opportunities to get to know kids and facilitate their learning.

- The Saturday Enrichment Program runs for five weeks in the winter (January/February) and hires both teachers and teaching assistants.
- The Summer Enrichment Program runs for three 10-day sessions over the summer and hires both teachers and counselors.

<https://curry.virginia.edu/services-outreach/saturday-summer-enrichment-program>

Apply to be a Big Sister with the Young Women Leaders Program, a community-based mentoring program that pairs UVA undergraduates with girls in local middle schools.

<https://womenscenter.virginia.edu/young-women-leaders-program>

Apply to be a Big Brother with the Men's Leadership Project, a community-based mentoring program that pairs UVA undergraduates with boys in local middle schools.

<https://womenscenter.virginia.edu/mens-leadership-project>

Work in a summer program – day camps and overnight camps provide great opportunities to spend extended time with young people. You might also consider more teaching-focused programs like Breakthrough Collaborative, which hires teaching fellows to work to close the opportunity gap for middle school students at a range of sites across the country.

Work as a substitute teacher – either here in Charlottesville or in your hometown. This allows you to work in a range of school contexts and with students of different ages, which may help you determine where you would ultimately like to teach.

- To become a substitute in Albemarle County Schools, you need to have a high school diploma.
- To become a substitute in Charlottesville City Schools, you need to have 60 college-level credit hours.
- Requirements in other school divisions will vary.

Work as a tutor, babysitter, or nanny for families. Although these experiences may be less formal, they'll give you invaluable experience as you explore your career goals.