

Frequently Asked Questions: Virtual Volunteers

What is Your Advance?

Your Advance is a student-led non-profit in Manatee and Sarasota County, uplifting the community through revolutionary programs and initiatives to boost student engagement, promote dynamic outcomes, and support endless opportunities for all K-12 students. Since our founding in 2020, we've served over 40 families in need with no-cost tutoring and mentoring service from our area's high-achieving group of high school scholars.

What is the Student Companion Project?

As part of the Student Companion Project, you will be a volunteer mentor paired with local elementary or middle student. You will provide academic and peer support virtually. All of our volunteers provide this service at no-cost for community service hours.

For the spring semester, you will be participating from March 2021 to May 2021.

Is this activity able to boost my resumé?

Yes. Your Advance has been recognized by many community leaders and has been promoted on Bay News 9, ABC 7 Suncoast, and the Herald Tribune. Your participation in our organization deems you to be a Student Mentor, which is a wonderful addition to your college application/resumé.

Will my participation count for Bright Futures Community Service hours?

Yes. Upon registration, you will be trained on how to log your hours within our website. However, you must provide us all completed forms from your high school at the end of our program. We DO NOT self-report hours to the school. It is your responsibility to do so. Different schools have different processes for pre-approval or documentation, please contact your guidance counselor if you have questions.



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How many hours will I receive?

Each week of the Student Companion Project from March 2021 to May 2021, you will receive one hour per student you mentor for a total of 12 hours upon the completion of the program. Extra service hours may be awarded at the discretion of the Executive Leadership team.

Additionally, if you tutor/mentor more students than the required one student, you may do so for more service hours. Please inform the interviewer during your scheduled interview.

Is there a time commitment?

Yes. You will be required to meet with your student over video call once a week to discuss their progress and provide support.

What is the application process?

After successfully submitting your online application on www.youradvance.org/volunteer, you will follow these steps:

All applicants will be contacted for a scheduled interview over video call.

This includes asking the volunteer, before working with us, questions about their coursework and commitment to the community. Our program is very selective in choosing volunteers. They must complete an extensive interview and training session with our leadership team in order to work with a student. We are all committed to maintaining a reputation of excellence.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Contact the Support Center via email at info@youradvance.org or call +1 (941) 882-0085.

