

DC Global Language Corps

Overview

DC Public Schools (DCPS) has engaged in an ambitious initiative to ensure that every DCPS graduate is an inquisitive, informed and active global citizen, with robust and rigorous global opportunities equitably accessible in each DCPS site. One aspect of this work is World Language instruction. To prepare our students for an increasingly connected and interdependent world, DCPS has invested in World Language programming for all schools, starting in early childhood and continuing through advanced high school courses. DCPS offers 7 target languages (Arabic, American Sign Language, French, Italian, Latin, Mandarin, Spanish) across the district, and offers World Language instruction in at least one language at every DCPS school. DCPS World Language instruction is aligned with the World Readiness Standards, with a focus on progressing student proficiency as defined by ACTFL's Proficiency Guidelines. DCPS World Language programs provide students and teachers with a world-class curriculum that reflects these standards and the three modes of language learning: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational.

DCPS is delighted to partner with the Peace Corps to introduce the DC Global Language Corps (DC GLC). This program connects Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs) with demonstrated multi-lingual proficiency and global experience to DCPS World Language classrooms. RPCVs selected for the DC GLC are given an opportunity to continue to apply their developing teaching practice in a US context, and find a professional home in a District that places a high value on global competence. In addition to World Language instruction for every student, DCPS offers innovative global programming such as the Embassy Adoption Program, the fully-funded DCPS Study Abroad program, International Baccalaureate Programmes, International Food Days, and a Global Studies Schools network. DCPS offers the highest teacher salary in the nation, and teachers are provided with multiple leadership opportunities, both in and out of their school building through our Leadership Initiative for Teachers (LIFT) career ladder. DCPS World Language teachers have access to a brand new, teacher-driven curriculum; online learning management tools; a first year mentor program; 5 District-wide professional development days; and multiple afterschool professional development opportunities.

DC Global Language Corps members who are selected for the program will work as a cohort over the course of three years. In addition to the general District resources available, the Corps members will engage in a one week pre-service training, led by DCPS and Peace Corps staff. DC GLC members will meet together once a month with the DCPS Global Education team, to support and learn about one another's work on an ongoing basis. DC GLC Corps members evaluated as Highly Effective or Effective on IMPACT for two years will be eligible to receive their Standard DC Teaching License from OSSE, as long as they have met related testing requirements.

DC Global Language Corps: Program Supports

Program Overview

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Program Support

As a part of the DC Global Language Corps, participants will:

- Participate in a full day Fellowship Orientation in August
- Participate in bi-monthly Fellowship meetings
- Participate in World Language Professional Development, which includes:
 - **District-Wide PD Days:** teachers work with their Professional Learning Community each district-wide PD day. Teachers will engage in cycles of collaborative lesson planning based on World Language curricula; rounds of practice and feedback; content knowledge development and student work analysis.
 - **Monthly Professional Learning Seminars:** teachers will be provided with one after-school Professional Learning seminar each month. These optional seminars will develop content knowledge and provide teachers opportunities for planning and practice. Seminars will be prepared by Office of Instructional Practice content Managers and will be facilitated by District Course Chairs.
 - **Monthly Webinars:** teachers will have an opportunity to view a quarterly webinar featuring videos on best practices and content knowledge development. Teachers will engage in online discussions with their colleagues from across the district based on prompts throughout the webinar.
- Receive one-on-one support
 - Receive regular observation feedback and lesson planning support.
- Participate in the WL Mentor Program (optional)
 - This program, designed and implemented by veteran DCPS World Language teachers, works to provide incoming teachers with professional and pedagogical support. Mentors and mentees work together to enhance planning, instruction, and collaboration.