



**Boston Chinatown
Neighborhood Center, Inc.**
波士頓華埠社區中心

Youth Center
38 Ash Street, Boston, MA 02111
Tel: (617) 635-5129 x 1024
Fax: (617) 292-6599

**Serve as a mentor for
BCNC's Youth Center's College Access Program!**

The college application process is complicated. Our youth need your guidance!

What:

BCNC's Youth Center College Access Program (CAP) matches mentors with high school juniors and seniors to build a college-going culture among our youth and to empower them with tools to successfully apply to college. In addition to receiving one-on-one attention from mentors on their college applications, mentees participate in college tours and workshops throughout the school year.

How:

As a mentor in the College Access Program, you will:

- Provide one-on-one mentoring to your mentee during their junior and senior academic years
Help identify and gather application materials
- Guide your mentee to articulate his/her ideas and stories for the college essay
- Discuss with your mentees

When:

- Mentors start mentoring during their mentee's junior year by meeting once a month
- ...And continue with their mentee through their senior year by providing intensive weekly guidance on writing the college essay and completing the college application.

Who:

We are looking for volunteers who...

- Have completed a college degree
- Have experience with or interest in working with youth
- Are knowledgeable of the college application process
- Are bilingual or have worked with immigrant youth (highly preferable, but not required)
- Able to commit to the program and mentee for at least from the start of the mentee's junior year to mid-senior year
- Have easy access to the Greater Boston Area

**If you are interested in applying, please contact
Jasmine Lee for more information at
jasmine.lee@bcnc.net or (617)635-5129 ext. 1045**

College Access Mentoring Program





General Information

Overview:

BCNC's Youth Center College Access Program matches qualified mentors with high school juniors in one-to-one relationships from junior year through senior year. Junior matches meet at least once per month, and as they proceed to senior year, senior matches meet at least once per week. The main objective of the program is to build a college-going culture among our youth and to empower them with tools to successfully prepare, apply, and be accepted to college. In addition to receiving one-on-one attention from mentors on their college applications, mentees are able to participate in college tours and workshops throughout the school year.

CAP Advisory Board:

The College Access Program Advisory board is a group of 3-4 current mentors who help plan and lead the College Access Program. They recruit mentors, plan training orientations and group activities, and provide support and information to mentors if problems arise.

Recruitment of Mentors and Mentees:

Mentors complete a written application, including three references. Prospective mentors participate in an in-person interview conducted by a Youth Center staff and/or CAP Advisory Board member(s). After completing the interview process, mentors must go through CORI/SORI background check and attend the orientation training. Mentees also complete a written application, which includes a parent/guardian consent form. Mentees are selected based on need of services and fit with our program.

Matching:

A Youth Center staff works with the CAP Advisory Board to match mentors and mentees based on shared interests and personality. Before a match is officially made, mentors participate in a pre-match meeting with a potential mentee. In cases where we are unable to match a youth with a mentor, the youth will be placed on our waiting list and will be contacted once an appropriate mentor is available. Once a match is officially made, mentees are asked to make the initial contact via email with their mentors to set up the first in-person meeting. It is required that the first meeting take place at BCNC and typically a Youth Center staff explains the contract to the match in the beginning of the first meeting and collects the signed contract.

After Match is Made:

Junior matches are expected to meet at least once per month for 1.5-2 hours for the duration of the entire academic school year. Senior matches are expected to meet at least once per week for 1.5-2 hours, starting from the summer prior to senior year through January of the following year. Matches can only meet in public spaces, including BCNC, school, library, and cafes. Meeting guidelines are outlined in the college curriculum that is shared with all mentors and mentees as they are matched. Mentors are not expected to tutor mentees or help mentees on their home/schoolwork. As our mentors are volunteers, it is important that mentors and mentees uphold their commitment and respect each other's time.

College Tours:

We offer 5-6 college tours throughout an academic school year. Junior mentees are expected to commit to at least three tours and senior mentees commit to at least two tours. Colleges and universities that we usually (but are not restricted to) tour are local and easily accessible by public transportation. Our college tours are free and typically occur on dates and times that are most convenient for Boston Public School students (i.e. holidays, vacation week, and weekends).

College Workshops:

We offer 5-6 college workshops during the academic school year. Junior mentees are expected to commit to at least three workshops and senior mentees commit to at least two workshops. Workshop topics are outlined in the curriculum that is shared with all mentors and mentees in the beginning of the school year. Workshops are typically led by a Youth Center staff or qualified Youth Center volunteer. Our college workshops are free and typically occur on dates and times that are most convenient for Boston Public School students.