

# Volunteer Coach

Universify Education is looking for **enthusiastic students or recent graduates** who are passionate about university to act as Volunteer Coaches to students in Year 10/11. We work with students from non-selective state schools, helping to boost their attainment and aspirations on our **year-long programme**.

As a coach, you will help run two residential courses. The summer course is an intensive but rewarding 7-day course involving morning lectures, afternoon group work and evening social activities. In spring students and volunteers return for a 3-4 day revision weekend. You will also deliver monthly online coaching sessions to help students stay motivated and reach their potential in education.

## WHAT DOES VOLUNTEERING WITH UNIVERSIFY INVOLVE?

You will join a **team of volunteers** to deliver an authentic and inspirational experience of university life to **Year 10/11 students from non-selective state schools**. In addition, you will be paired with up to three students and catch up with them during monthly online coaching sessions, where you will help students reflect on their academic progress.

## WHAT MAKES AN EXCELLENT UNIVERSIFY COACH?

**We are looking for volunteers who share our vision of educational equality.** Our Volunteer coaches are incredibly **enthusiastic, proactive, and motivated**. They play an essential role in making the student experience rewarding, interesting and, above all, fun.

Volunteering as a Universify Coach will test your ability to think on your feet, act as a consistent role-model for young people, and engage with a wide variety of people from different backgrounds.

## HOW WILL CORONAVIRUS AFFECT UNIVERSIFY?

The need for access and outreach is more important than ever before. During the pandemic, we have continued to support students, moving our programmes online to deliver successful online courses throughout 2020-21. Volunteers brought the courses to life, keeping students engaged and energised throughout.

**We hope to run our summer courses in-person** at our partner colleges in Oxford and Cambridge. However, please note that our courses may have to move online in line with future guidance and national lockdowns.

## WHAT IS INVOLVED?

- **One week summer course** in-person at an Oxford or Cambridge college (or online) in August 2021
- **3-4 day spring residential** at an Oxford or Cambridge college in March/April 2021
- **Monthly hour-long online coaching sessions** for a year with up to 3 coachees (3 hours a month)
- **(TBC) October booster day** – a 1-day online course to re-engage students
- **Pre-course training** lasting approximately 8.5 hours, covering coaching and safeguarding training, with additional ad hoc training sessions throughout the year

## Summer and Spring Courses

- **Run activities and group work projects for students**
- **Share your experience of university** and answer questions about university life
- **Safeguard student welfare** to ensure students are happy, healthy and enjoying the course, and to report any concerns to Group Leaders

## Monthly online coaching

- **Empower students** through active listening and helping students to set goals
- **Coaches are consistent and reliable**, helping students keep track of their progress each month and taking a genuine interest in their futures

## WHAT SUPPORT IS PROVIDED?

You will receive specialist training in coaching, mentoring and child safeguarding run by Universify. You will also have coaching support from experienced Course Directors and staff on the residential courses and throughout the year.

We run an opt-in full-year training programme which aims to improve your employability skills as well as your coaching skills and build your experience working with young people. Training is delivered through 4 sessions over the year and includes topics such as Advanced Coaching and Youth Mental Health First Aid.

## PRACTICAL DETAILS

- **Voluntary:** we will cover course-related expenses and travel to and from residential (within the UK)
- **Accommodation:** on residential, we will provide some accommodation. Priority goes to Course Directors, Group Leaders and people coming from outside Oxford and Cambridge
- **Meals:** all meals are provided at the partner college during the residential courses

## APPLY

Please complete our [application form](#) as soon as possible. Places will be filled on a rolling basis.

## ABOUT US

Universify Education exists to further educational equality. Our vision is a diverse and inclusive higher education system, tackling the under-representation of students from disadvantaged backgrounds in the UK's top universities.

Universify Education is committed to safeguarding and protecting children. We check references and undertake enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children.

Please note that all personal information submitted via our application form will be treated in accordance with our data protection policy.

We want all our volunteers to feel supported and listened to at Universify. We are always happy to discuss any adjustments to the application process or role that you may require. For more information, please email [info@universifyeducation.com](mailto:info@universifyeducation.com)