

Introduction: TutorMate is the nation’s preeminent online volunteer tutoring program, helping thousands of struggling students learn to read. More than 200 of the country’s most prominent corporations partner with TutorMate to recruit an army of volunteers to help young students in under-resourced schools and communities. A volunteer tutor is paired with a first or second grade student for remote 30-minute tutoring sessions once per week throughout the school year. The volunteer may tutor from their office, at home, or wherever there is internet access. During the session, the tutor and student read stories together online and play games that build student word knowledge. You can learn more in this [90 second video](#).

Why are we partnering with TutorMate?

Here at GA, we recognize that literacy is a fundamental civil right for all. TutorMate has shared research that shows if a child is poor reader at the end of first grade, there is an 88% chance that the same child will be a poor reader at the end of fourth grade. Instead of waiting to address literacy issues in the third or fourth grade, the TutorMate program aims to help students read at grade level by the end of first grade – setting students up for reading enthusiasm and scholastic success early on. Teachers have reported that thousands of students have increased reading proficiency, improved student confidence, and fostered a greater love of reading, all thanks to the commitment from TutorMate volunteers.

GA Previous Involvement: GA first participated in the TutorMate program during the 2017-2018 school year. 27 GA&A employees participated in a very rewarding experience by tutoring their students, who were at 3 different schools in the Santa Ana district. 27 employees also participated at 3 classrooms at one school in the Santa Ana district during the 2018-2019 school year.

School District: GA employees will work with 1 or more schools in the Long Beach school district for the 2019-2020 school year.

Videos and Links:

TutorMate 5-minute video overview: <http://tiny.cc/tutormate>

TutorMate FAQ: <https://tiny.cc/iflfaqs>

Signing Up: *Please register to be a TutorMate tutor for the 2019-2020 school year by September 13.*

If you want to participate, please sign up for the program at <https://www.tutormate.org/register>

- Use your work email address.
- Your Tutor City is San Diego.
- Your Tutor Group is General Atomics – Long Beach.
- Select that you want to be a tutor.

Background checks are required each year, for new and for returning tutors.

A volunteer is “tutor ready” when they have completed registration, a 30-minute training webinar, and the background check.

Please complete the registration process by September 15, 2019.

Tutoring will begin in the October 2019 time frame.

Charging your time and using your company computer and phone:

Participation in this program is entirely voluntary. If you decide to participate in this program, you may apply to use a charge number provided by GASSSS for up to 8 hours in calendar year 2019 (the equivalent of 16 30-minute tutoring sessions). You can also apply for support in calendar year 2020 for an additional 8 hours. Note that the GASSSS program provides a total of up to 8 hours of support per employee per calendar year for STEM related activities.

Participants are typically paired-up with an individual student for the duration of the school year, and engage in one 30-minute session with such student each week until the conclusion of the school year. If the number of anticipated weekly sessions during a school year exceeds the amount of time chargeable to the GASSSS-provided charge number, participants should expect to participate in those sessions on their own time.

To apply to use the charge number, please fill out a GASSSS application form at:
<http://www.sci-ed-ga.org/gassss>

You should expect to use your company computer and phone to participate in this program. These uses are approved and allowed.

Program support: The GA Sciences Education Foundation is funding the implementation of TutorMate at GA.

Other outreach opportunities: Other mentoring and outreach opportunities are listed [here](#)

For additional information or if you have questions, contact the GA TutorMate coordinator, Larry Woolf at 858-762-6175 or Lawrence.Woolf@ga-asi.com