

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 literacy games that build student word knowledge.

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. In addition, if kids are not reading at grade level by the end of third grade, they are 4x less likely to graduate from high school. 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. TutorMate began again with 25 tutors during the 2019-2020 school year, but the program ended prematurely in March 2020 due to COVID-19. COVID-19 prevented any programs in 2020-2021.

2021-2022 School District: GA employees will work with schools either in the Denver, Colorado or the Long Beach, California area for the 2021-2022 school year. Santa Ana is not currently involved in the TutorMate program. You choose the school location where the student you tutor will be located.

Your commitment: When you register, you can select the frequency in which you are available to work with a student. Sessions are typically during school hours, once a week, for 30-minutes. Volunteers schedule their weekly sessions in the TutorMate platform using a calendar shared with the teacher.

Videos and Links:

TutorMate 5-minute video overview: https://tiny.cc/tutormate_overview

TutorMate FAQ: <https://www.innovationsforlearning.org/s/TutorMate-FAQs.pdf>

Signing Up: *Please register to be a TutorMate tutor for the 2021-2022 school year by September 10.*

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

- Use your work email address.

- The Volunteer Location is San Diego.
- Select the Tutor Group as either General Atomics - Denver or 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 10, 2021

Tutoring will begin in the October 2021 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 2021 (the equivalent of 16 30-minute tutoring sessions). You can also apply for support in calendar year 2022 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 GASSSS 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 (office) or Lawrence.Woolf@ga-asi.com

It all **starts**
with **literacy.**



Struggling young readers
are **falling further behind**
due to Covid-19.

Volunteer with TutorMate and help a
disadvantaged child catch up with their reading.

4x

Kids who don't read at grade level by the end of third grade are **4x less** likely to graduate high school. The COVID-19 pandemic has only widened this literacy gap. The need for reading support is more critical than ever.

A child who can read is set up for life. Not just because they do better at school and have better job prospects, but because they are happier and more confident.



- 1:1 match with struggling first & second graders for entire academic year
- Background check required
- 30 minutes a week during school hours



- All you need is a phone and internet connection – tutor from anywhere!
- Easy to use TutorMate platform guides you through each session.



- Scheduling is flexible
- Webinar training provided with hand-holding support
- Fun, engaging activities focus on building fluency and comprehension

Watch the video to learn more about the impact you can make: http://tiny.cc/tutormate_overview
Register Now: <https://www.tutormate.org/register>

For additional information, contact Larry Woolf, TutorMate Coordinator, at
Lawrence.Woolf@ga-asi.com