

## Become a Discovery Instructor!

### What is Discovery?

The Mary and Frances Youth Center (MFYC) on the VCU campus opened its doors in 2007 and provides programming and training to enhance the lives of youth in the Richmond metro area. One of these programs is Discovery, a summer program designed to attract a diverse middle school audience (rising 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) to a broad array of educational opportunities with a focus on the STEM disciplines, health sciences and the arts (STEAM-H). Discovery's mission includes introducing youth to higher education and career exploration opportunities. Discovery operates Monday – Friday between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm, and will offer three one-week camps from July 29 – August 16 2019. More information at <https://mfyc.vcu.edu/>.

### Hear from Our 2018 Instructors:

*"I really enjoyed how invested everyone is in the program. Not only are the instructors and MFYC staff dedicated the summer program, but the children are as well. There have been few teaching environments where I could say that at least 90% of the students were invested in the course, but I CAN say that with confidence about the campers at MFYC!" - 2018 Discovery Instructor*

*The friendly staff who were willing to continuously accommodate my needs as a teacher and, of course, the students who were very inquisitive and excited to take photographs. – 2018 Discovery Instructor*

*This was a great experience, and I'm honored to have been a part! – 2018 Discovery Instructor*

### Class & Instructor Information:

- One-week sessions between July 29 – August 16, with a class size up to 16
- Classes can be
  - ½ day (3 hours) sessions in either the morning (9:00-12:00pm) or afternoon (12:30-3:30pm)
  - full-day (6.5 hours which includes ½ hour lunch)
- Two instructor payment options available
  - Stipend-based (either through your VCU department or MFYC)
  - Volunteer-based (volunteers your time to help Discovery maintain diversity and scholarship opportunities); see benefits of volunteering and stipend information below
- Supplies:
  - If you require supplies, a supply request form or a completed order form from your preferred supplier must be included with your RFP.
  - Limited funds are available for supplies. Please consider equipment and supplies that you may already have or that you can borrow. We will contact you if we are unable to purchase items from your list.

### RFP Process & Selection:

- Submit an online class proposal from January 14 – February 6, 2019
- RFP must include one or more of the STEAM-H disciplines
- RFP must include real-world, hands-on activities that support the objectives of the class
- Class proposals will be selected by February 18, 2019
- Once accepted, submit a daily lesson plan by April 15, 2019
- Attend online and in-person training prior to the start of the program
- Instructors must pass a national criminal and sex offender registry background check

## Benefits of Volunteering as a Discovery Instructor:

### For Everyone:

- Administrative and classroom support provided by MFYC
- Benefit from positive youth development training
- Allow Discovery to offer scholarships to underserved youth by volunteering your time
- Inspire the next generation to pursue opportunities in your profession or area of study
- Grow your resume and skillset

### As a VCU Faculty/Staff Member:

- Align with Quest 2025 Theme III, Goal III, and Key Strategy: Use evidence-based practices to evaluate out-of-school-time programming and collaborate with regional schools and community partners to enhance the quality and bring new, innovative out-of-school-time programs to the region.
- Mobilize and sustain a commitment to university-community partnerships for your VCU unit or program
- Create a lasting connection between VCU and youth in the Richmond region
- Inspire youth to pursue opportunities in higher education
- Engage in service as a scholarly activity, thus fulfilling the role of a teaching, research and service faculty member
- Utilize your enhanced CSL hours as a University and Academic Professional
- Promote VCU as a welcoming, diverse institution
- Demonstrate excellence in your role through service

### As a VCU Graduate Student:

- Gain real world classroom experience working with students from a diverse urban environment
- Engage in service, enhance your leadership skills and gain professional experience
- Develop a professional network by connecting with youth serving professionals
- Volunteer as part of an internship or externship

### As a Community Member:

- Help create sustainable engagement opportunities that connect the broader community with VCU.
- Create unique class options that are not taught during the school year.
- Share your passion with Richmond's youth.
- Build a professional network at VCU.

### Available Stipends:

- Pay will be based on degree and/or equivalent experience in leading youth programs, regardless if you are affiliated with VCU or a community member. The pay stipend ranges listed below are the total for the week and not a daily wage.
  - Bachelor's Degree/Graduate Student Rate: \$300 for each ½ day class and \$650 for each full-day class
  - Faculty/Staff Rate: \$400 for each ½ day class and \$850 for each full-day class
- If a course is co-taught, the instructors will split the pay.