

JUMPSTART PROGRAM



The **Jumpstart** program is a national nonprofit that partners with AmeriCorps and has sites on campuses throughout the United States. The Pace University Jumpstart program allows Pace undergraduate students to work one-on-one with disadvantaged preschool children to help combat America's school-readiness crisis and enhance early literacy. With this enrichment support, children are helped with building basic reading skills at an early age, which improves their chances for success in school, and creates a lifelong love of learning. Pace Jumpstart takes place during the academic year at preschool sites concentrated throughout Manhattan's Lower East Side.

The Jumpstart Program began at Pace University in 2007 and since then has worked with over 800 children at seven different schools, inspiring them to learn. Jumpstart offers training, on-going professional development and service opportunities to its college-student corps members. Jumpstart is based at Pace University's Dyson College Center for Undergraduate Research Experiences.

Service

- For the school year, members are paired with children at a local preschool.
- Corps members work in teams of five-to-seven college students with classrooms of about twenty children.
- Corps members and children participate in Jumpstart sessions twice per week, providing key one-to-one attention and group interaction.
- Jumpstart helps children develop language, literacy, and social skills vital to success both in school and life.

Commitment

- Corps members serve 8-10 hours per week for a total maximum of 300 hours served from September 1 through May 15.
- Intensive Jumpstart training is required prior to beginning service and Corps development support continues throughout the academic year.
- As an AmeriCorps program, Jumpstart members regularly engage in reflections regarding service to offer better support for the children and families served.
- After the successful completion of the 300-hour service commitment, members are eligible for an education award from AmeriCorps.

Eligibility Requirements

- Only undergraduates with federal work-study awards are eligible to apply for a Pace Jumpstart Corps position.
- Hiring preference will be given to applicants with a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- Applicants are accepted on a rolling basis with most recruitment done in September.

More Information and Apply

For more information please contact **Deborah Markert**, Site Manager
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To apply to be a part of Jumpstart at Pace University, visit jstart.org.

