



TEACH**FOR**INDIA

THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

TEACH, LEAD, LOVE

The Crisis

VOLUNTEERING, A CRITICAL PRIORITY.

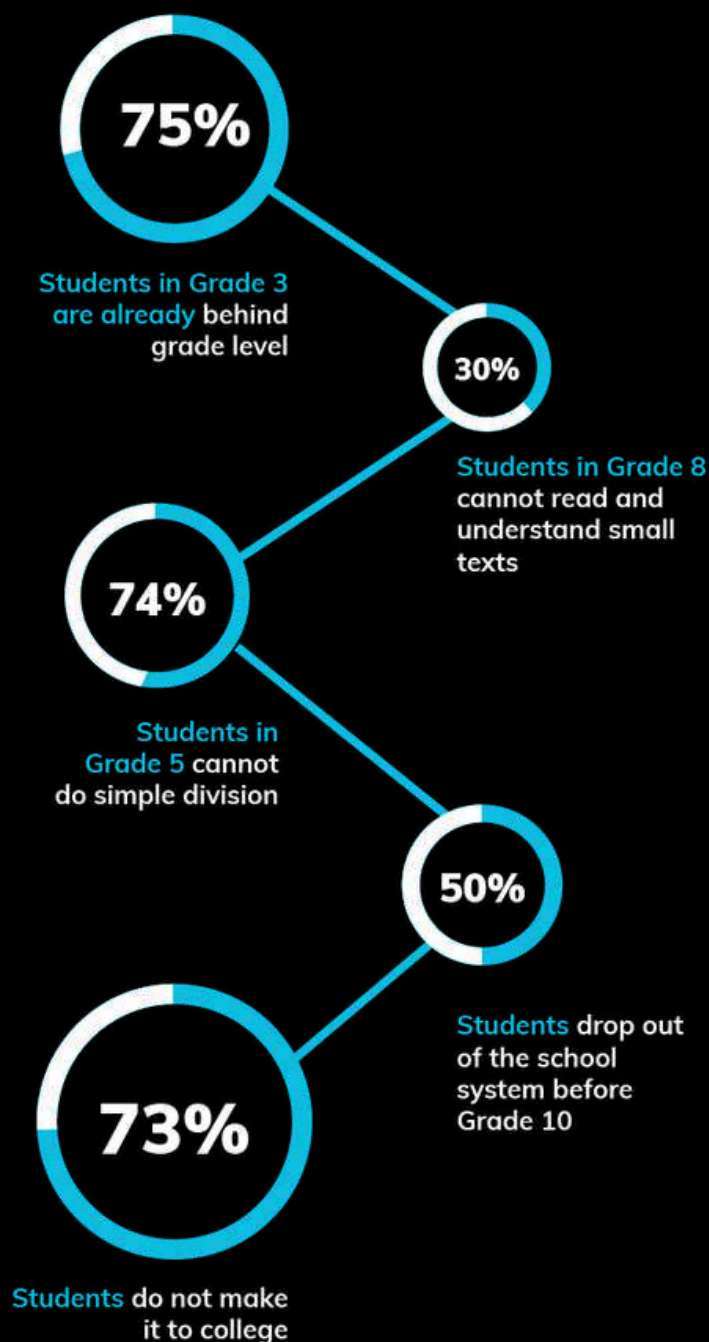
India is facing a crisis of unprecedented proportions. While our Constitution guarantees all of us Equality, Justice, Fraternity and Liberty, these are distant ideals for many of us.

Children living in poverty are often worst hit by these statistics, with their education - and therefore their life choices, being severely affected.

It will take a movement of leaders working together at all levels of the system to provide an excellent, equitable education to all of India's children. One that will guarantee them Liberty, Equality, Fraternity and Justice. Teach For India is committed to fuelling India with this leadership.

At Teach For India, we believe that **Volunteers** who selflessly champion the cause of Children, Education, and India are integral to solving this complex puzzle.

Compassionate individuals like you play an important role in bridging learning gaps, broadening Children's exposure to diverse talents and skills, and providing them with a dependable Leader to inspire and guide them.



EACH & EVERY INDIVIDUAL CAN BRING VALUE TO A CLASSROOM.

A University Student, a Banker, an Engineer, an Artist, an Entrepreneur, a Carpenter, a Parent, a Homemaker, a Journalist, a Doctor, or a Chef - each of us has something meaningful we can contribute to a Child and their Classroom.

Each of us has skills, knowledge, and values that can make a difference in a Child's life. This is your chance to share what you know and create a lasting impact through teaching.

The Volunteer Program is open for any individual above the **age of 14**, engaged in any trade, studying, or taking a break, to either:

- A. Teach a small group of Children an academic Subject they need support with.
- B. Start a Volunteer-led Club for Children and take regular sessions to nurture & develop Children's interests.

AND THROUGH VOLUNTEERING, YOU EMBARK ON A LEADERSHIP JOURNEY ROOTED IN SELF DISCOVERY

It's often said, **"I walked into the School as a Teacher, but left as a Student - my Students taught me more than I taught them."**

We believe Teaching fosters Leadership. Through volunteering, you will challenge yourself and develop key skills like time management, communication, problem-solving, creativity, adaptability, and planning. By the end of the program, you will have tangible proof of these skills, ready to apply in your future.

The Volunteer Program

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THE CLASSROOM SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR VOLUNTEERS

The **Classroom Support Program** offers aspiring **Changemakers** a valuable opportunity to engage with a circle of Children towards learning outcomes under the guidance of a Fellow Mentor.

Alongside, the principle that **Teaching Builds Leadership**, Volunteers engage to build a better understanding of themselves, others their community, and Education in India through their classroom experience. Through the program, they build & practice key skills important for careers in the 21st Century.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Once assigned to a Classroom - **Complete your mandatory Orientation to set yourself up for success with Children.** You can do this in your own time as it is completely online.

B. Once done, **visit your assigned School at least twice each week and work with your group of Children for a minimum of 50 Hours in around 4 months.**

As a Volunteer, you will support a small group of Students needing extra attention or skill-building for a couple of hours, not the entire Classroom or School day.

Volunteers are encouraged to go above and beyond 50 Hours - this is just the minimum requirement for a certificate.

C. Prep for your time in School. Create exciting and engaging Lesson Plans for your Children. Regularly coordinate with your Fellow Mentor to brief Classroom needs and next steps.

D. Track and Submit your monthly volunteering activities diligently.

E. For your Leadership Development Journey:

- Complete three **online Reflection & Learning Exercises at regular intervals.**
- Attend at least **one in-person Reflection space** held at Teach For India's Office in your city if they are being conducted. These are essential for gaining valuable personal insights and takeaways from the program.

ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

YOUR COMMITMENT

TEACH TO CHANGE LIVES

At Teach For India, Volunteers play a key role in teaching Children a wide range of subjects and skills, from academics to life lessons.



As a Volunteer:

A. You can teach Children an Academic Subject - English (Improve Reading/Writing), Math, Science(Teach Practically, make it fun), Social Studies. Children tend to struggle with Foundation Literacy & Numeracy.

B. And/OR You can **start a Club for Children** - a Debate Club, Yoga Club, Drama Club, Poetry Club, Well-being Club - The possibilities are endless. Some Classrooms may already have these opportunities, but **even if you are placed for an academic subject, you can pitch this idea as well as the plan to your Fellow Mentor and start off, if possible.** Make sure to truly benefit the Classroom by bridging an existing gap.

C. Volunteers are also encouraged to undertake Community-related Projects.

YOUR COMMITMENT

APPLICATION & PLACEMENTS

Anyone interested in the Volunteer Program can apply **whenever they're ready to start. There are no fixed cycles or deadlines** - we'll match you with an opportunity as soon as one aligns with your preferences. However, please note that opportunities are generally fewer during School breaks.

To start your application, simply visit our [website](#) And click on '**Register Now**'

First, you'll see a list of available volunteering opportunities to choose from before proceeding with your application. You can customise your preferences based on:



A. Mode (Offline/Online): Keep in mind that 95% of our opportunities require in-person volunteering.



B. City: Teach For India operates in nine regions across India, so you can select where you'd like to volunteer.



C. Location Preferences: Since commuting across an entire city isn't always feasible, you can choose all the areas where you'd be comfortable volunteering. These clusters have multiple Teach For India schools. If no opportunities are available in your selected cluster (waitlisted), we'll notify you when new ones open up.



D. Timing Preferences: Let us know your available time slots, considering work or university commitments, so we can match you accordingly. If your preferred time slot isn't currently available, you can still proceed with your application.



E. Subjects: Choose up to five subjects you'd love to teach Children.

You'll then be led to your Application form where you can provide us with other details, and take a short assessment before submitting. The entire application process shouldn't take more than 10 minutes.

Based on your preferences and application, there are two possible scenarios:

A. Immediate Placement: If you've selected an opportunity that is currently available, you'll be placed right away and can proceed with the next steps outlined in the next few pages.

B. Waiting for Availability: If your preferred location, timing, or subject isn't available at the moment, we'll match you to an opportunity as soon as one opens up. Please note that this may take an **uncertain** amount of time.

FLEXIBILITY - A PROGRAM FOR EVERYONE

Students attending University/High School

Choose a slot that wraps around your University's Schedule. You can attend your assigned School before College timings or after.

You can also specify a location preference closer to your University or your Residence.

If you plan to Volunteer for **Course Credits**, you can choose to Volunteer for Full-day of the School.

Working Professionals (Office/WFH)

Professionals can Volunteer in the early hours of the morning and head to work from School or teach after work if you get done early. Schools start as early at 7:30 in the morning.

As a new initiative, Volunteers can visit **Children at home in the community** during the evenings, offering a fresh alternative to traditional tuition.

Taking a Break?

If you're on a gap year or taking a break from work, Volunteering is a meaningful way to stay engaged, develop key skills, and make an impact. You can commit to longer durations or even a full School day.

Clarity on Saturdays

Fellows and Children really benefit from your support in their classrooms, which are held on weekdays. While there are a few opportunities available on Saturdays, they are limited and only offer a single day of Volunteering. **We strongly recommend committing to at least two days per week for a more meaningful impact.**

YOUR COMMITMENT

STARTING STRONG ONCE PLACED



POLICY HANDBOOK

You will receive a WhatsApp or email notification as soon as an opportunity matching **all** your preferences becomes available. Since you will be working closely with Children, Fellows, Parents, and Teachers, we'll also share our policy handbook along with a short quiz on key guidelines.

To keep your application active, **please complete the policy quiz within 48 hours.**

APPROVALS/CONFIRMATION

Once you complete the Policy Handbook & Quiz, you'll receive confirmation of your acceptance into the program and details of your Fellow Mentor.

We encourage you to **schedule an online conversation with them to discuss all key aspects of your Volunteering:** Classroom context, schedule, vision for Children, your role, norms, and expectations.

Your Fellow Mentor may also request a school visit before finalising your Volunteering. Make sure that your mentor approves you on their portal.

ONLINE ORIENTATION

As soon as your Fellow Mentor confirms you in their Classroom, we'll begin your orientation on Google Classroom. **It is self-paced, but mandatory to finish it in the first week for a strong start.** You'll cover important pieces such as your Role as a Volunteer, working with Children, creating a 3 Month Plan, etc. **THIS IS A MANDATORY TASK FOR EVERY SINGLE VOLUNTEER.**



Google Classroom

YOUR COMMITMENT

TEACHING, ACTIVITY RECORD & SUBMISSION



In your primary role as a Volunteer, you'll engage with a small set of Students towards learning outcomes under the guidance of a Fellow Mentor.

As you go around and about your weekly Volunteering responsibilities, we request you to:

- A. **Create Lesson Plans** for your time in School. You can make use of popular AI tools to support you in creating exciting & fun Lesson Plans for your Children.
- B. **Conduct fortnightly meetings with your Fellow Mentor** to discuss progress so far, next steps, address challenges, and areas of growth.
- C. Along with your Fellow Mentor, **maintain and regularly update an activity tracker**.
- D. You will also be mapped to a **Cluster Lead** in your city for support/feedback/task completion checks.

Important: Monthly Activity Submission

At the end of each month, Volunteers receive an email with a form to log their Volunteering activities. They are encouraged to submit it by the 5th of the following month.

COMPLETING OR EXITING THE PROGRAM

A. Successfully Completed the Program - Volunteers who have successfully completed at least 50 Hours of teaching can request their Fellow Mentors to initiate their graduation for the Certificate. If you choose to volunteer for longer durations, the same will surely be specified on your Certificate.

We encourage you Volunteer as long as possible, creating a lasting impact.

B. Premature Exit - If you need to conclude the program before completing 50 hours due to unforeseen circumstances, please inform your Fellow Mentor to submit your exit form.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY

This component has been carefully designed to provide you with an opportunity to -

A

Reflect on your Classroom Experience, exploring big questions about Education in India through engaging and thought-provoking activities.

B

Reflect on and enhance your Leadership skills, discover your purpose, and **explore long-term roles & careers for you in advancing Education Equity.**

C

Connect with like-minded Volunteers and learn more about Education in India through Workshops on various reports and publications.

To accomplish these objectives, the following Workshops/Sessions have been included in the Volunteers mandatory journey:

Three Online Exercises on Google Classroom (Self-Paced)

A. Education in India: A Bird's-Eye View with ASER (After 15-20 Hours)

Volunteers step back to connect their Classroom Experience with broader trends in Education across India.

B. Roots & Branches: My Deep Strengths & Areas to Grow (Halfway Point)

At the halfway point, Volunteers reflect on their Leadership journey, recognizing key strengths and areas for growth.

C. Blueprint for Change - My Ideas for an Excellent School (At the End)

Volunteers reflect on their experiences by designing their ideal School in this creative activity.

Ripples of Change - A One-Time In-Person Session

Volunteers are invited to Teach For India's Office in their city to attend a special session curated for them. This session may be conducted online, and Volunteers are required to **attend at least one during the length of their participation.**

ROADMAP - A SUMMARY OF YOUR JOURNEY

Send us your application!

Read through this brochure in detail & then send us your application, which takes 15 minutes. Here, applicants provide us with their personal details, preferences, & attempt a short quiz.

Applicants can fill up the form anytime of the year.

1

2

Complete your Policy Packet!

Once you are assigned to a classroom, **we'll share its details and our policy documents.** We will familiarise you with the policies that govern our work and request **you to take a quiz on it!** **You will have 48 hours to finish this step.**

Speak with your Fellow Mentor

Contact & speak with your Fellow Mentor to confirm your volunteering in their classroom. You can get your queries resolved here & they'll need to 'approve' you for their classroom on their portal.

3

4

Your Prep & Training

We'll share your orientation on Google Classroom (our online learning platform), where you can prepare yourself for the Classroom. **Please note that this is a mandatory component.**

5



Teaching in the Classroom

Your time to shine & create an impact. Alongside teaching, schedule weekly meetings with your Fellow Mentor for content support, feedback on practices, and reflections on your outcomes so far!

Your Leadership Journey

Alongside teaching, Volunteers complete three leadership exercises on their orientation platform and attend one in-person reflection session at Teach For India's office as part of their growth, learning, and development. **These need to be completed at regular intervals and are mandatory components for a certificate!**

Graduate with a Certificate!

Volunteers sign up for a minimum commitment of 50 Hours, but can choose to continue for longer periods too! Once you complete the program, request your Fellow Mentor to submit your exit form. Once they do, you will receive another form as well, through which the certificate will be generated and sent to your inbox directly!

Not the End of the Road!

Continue Engaging as a Volunteer Alumni. Explore various options such as the Fellowship for life-long impact on Children.

VOLUNTEER ALUMNI

Besides their Completion Certificate and a few goodies, Volunteer Alumni receive access and support to a multitude of benefits at Teach For India.

GOLDEN TICKET TO THE FELLOWSHIP

Committed & Impactful Volunteers receive a Golden Ticket that can be redeemed to expedite their application to the Two-Year Full-time Fellowship Program by moving directly to the Assessment Center stage.

ATTEND TEACH FOR INDIA EVENTS

You will receive regular invites to our annual events. Across all cities, we hold various conferences, musicals, performances, and other special events such as InspirED, Schools of Tomorrow, etc.

NETWORK WITH THE ORGANISATION

We can connect you with the right people in the larger Teach For India ecosystem if you would like to learn more about Education, India, Development, Policy, **or plan to pursue a career in these fields.**

STAFF & INTERNSHIP ROLES AT TFI

Apply for various Staff and Internship roles for a long term career in Education. Service in the Classroom will also help you build better understanding of TFI's context before applying.

As a graduating Volunteer you would have successfully exhibited these critical 21st Century Skills for all future professional opportunities:

Time Management

Balancing out your professional/Education commitments along with volunteering, you'll now have clear evidences for this skill.

Adaptability

In the face of ever changing circumstances, you would have tailored your approach regularly to overcome these changes.

Problem Solving & Creativity

Through your volunteering, you'll face some interesting challenges that'll allow you to grow your problem solving & creativity skills.

Communication Skills

Regularly coordinating and updating between a wide range of stakeholders - Students, Fellows, Parents, etc.

Leadership Skills

Leading a group of Students, and yourself towards outcomes and growth.

And Many More...

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do Volunteers receive a Stipend/Salary?

Since Volunteering is part-time, goodwill-driven effort, there is currently no paid component.

What are Mandatory aspects of the Program?

- At least 50 Hours of Classroom teaching
- Completing Orientation on Google Classroom
- Regular Classroom Visits
- Completing LDJ Exercises

Can Volunteers take a break for Examination /travel/office priorities?

Certainly. We recommend resumption within at most three to four weeks and be consistently regular otherwise.

I'm working and get no time to Volunteer on weekdays.

Weekend opportunities are limited, but we're exploring home tutoring in the community in the evening hours - if you are up for it!

I have never taught before. Will I be able to Volunteer?

Yes, try it out. You'll also receive support and input from your Fellow Mentor.

My Location and preferred time are currently unavailable.

You can continue to apply with your preferences, but placement time may vary.

How long before I can get started?

Placements are immediate for available opportunities; otherwise, timing is uncertain.

My assigned School is very far away.

We assign Schools based on your location preferences, which could be the only limited opportunities available in that region.

Can we have a Grade preference?

We currently don't accept grade preferences, as it further narrows potential Schools for Volunteering.

I need to submit an acceptance letter to my University.

You can submit or forward your acceptance email to the University.

Can I start at a Future date?

You can choose to specify on your application form. We'll provide you with an opportunity only after this date.

I don't know the regional language, how will I communicate with Children?

All Teach For India Schools are English Medium Schools, with English being the primary mode of communication.

I want more clarity, who can I contact before applying?

Please write to us with your questions at volunteer@teachforindia.org. We're currently just a two-member team, hence we may take some time to get back to you.

What do I do if I have missed submitting the policy quiz?

Please write to us at volunteer@teachforindia.org to request for re-activation of your application. You will not be required to apply again.

Is it mandatory to complete the Orientation?

It is 100% mandatory to complete the Orientation on Google Classroom as it sets you up for success.