



August 18, 2020

Greetings. TEACH tutors!

I hope you, your families, and your loved ones are all healthy and staying safe.

These past several months have deeply disrupted all of our lives at home and, especially, in our relationships with others outside the home. Priorities have shifted, needs have changed, and social networks have been compromised.

Despite this, many of you have continued your engagement with your students and with TEACH through various technologies. Some have stayed in contact with TEACH but have suspended tutoring for several possible reasons, and some have given their time and attention to other priorities.

Whether or not you have continued contact with your students, many have expressed the desire to return to some form of regularly tutoring their students as the new school year begins. ***For your reference, attached is our Teach FY 2020-2021 Calendar. Also, please find the Fall 2020 Remote Learning Schedule.***

As we begin the new year, many tutors would like to re-establish in-person tutoring and have asked about TEACH's plans to have site-based tutoring once again. To that end, I am laying out TEACH's position below:

TEACH OPENING PLAN FOR RESTARTING IN-PERSON TUTORING AT SITES

TEACH is following the opening decisions of each site individually. When the libraries at which we tutor open to the public, we will be at the site as before. This means that each site may well resume at different times, based on the opening preferences of each. In addition, the schedule for each site may be set individually based on the availability of the site and the circumstances of the students, tutors and staff; we do not want to ask anyone to do anything that makes them feel uncomfortable or jeopardizes their well-being.

When we have been notified by sites that they are open again, each site coordinator – Susana, Cathy or Amy - will contact you to inform you of the availability of the site to resume in-person tutoring. ***When in-person is resumed, tutors and students must follow either the state's current executive orders regarding social distancing and wearing face masks, or site policies, whichever establishes the greater restrictions.*** Of course, if you or your students do not wish to meet face-to-face, we will respect those wishes.

We are in the process of developing guidelines for tutors and students who wish to meet in-person prior to site openings. Until that time, we ask that you do not hold in-person tutoring sessions. We will establish those guidelines as soon as we determine the standard practice of other organizations and adapt them to our circumstances.

I hope that this plan gives you a clear sense of TEACH's current opening policy. We will inform you of any revisions to the policy as they pertain to in-person tutoring prior to site openings. If you have any questions, please contact Susana, Cathy, Amy or me.

Thank you so very much for your commitment to staying engaged with your students and with us. Without you, we would not be able to fulfil our mission and assist our students to gain the English skills and cultural knowledge to stay safe and communicate with employers, schools and others in the community.

I encourage you to go to our webpage, "TEACH in the News" <https://www.teachempowers.org/teach-in-the-news/> for articles and a radio interview that highlight how TEACH, through your on-going commitment, continues to pursue its mission by adapting its work to meet the challenges of these difficult and uncertain times.

Wishing you good health, peace and safety,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Constantine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Constantine