

Teens As Teachers: Leadership and Scholarship Program

The South Dakota Teens As Teacher program is the only scholarship program of its kind. It provides a powerful service-oriented, community-based learning experience for teenagers while benefitting those they teach. The program provides opportunities for older youth to be teachers and mentors to younger students in classroom and after school settings while earning a scholarship for post-secondary education.

Volunteer hours and responsibilities are laid out in a “teaching contract” signed by each teen and co-signed by an adult mentor (Community Coach/Adviser). The amount of the scholarship earned is based on number of hours volunteered.

At its core, the Teen As Teacher program is also a leadership development program which gives high school students the opportunity to:

- learn in-depth information about a specific topic
- develop skill sets for classroom and out of school teaching
- understand youth development principles for various age levels
- learn appropriate teaching approaches for multicultural students
- prepare age-appropriate lesson plans utilizing different teaching techniques, visual aids, demonstrations, discussion and hand-on activities
- develop speaking skills before a group
- manage classroom settings
- mentor elementary and middle school students, and
- experience the rewards of being a teacher.

Upon completing their teaching commitment, they also have the satisfaction of “earning” a post-secondary school scholarship to the school of their choice. In many instances, the teen teacher experience opened career choices had not been previously considered; either in the subject matter they taught or teaching as a profession.



**HELPING YOU DO
GOOD FOR YOUTH IN
YOUR COMMUNITY!**

