



2008-2009

Resident Tutor Job Description

CTL peer tutoring emphasizes helping students develop independent learning skills. While our tutors' content knowledge is useful in guiding their work with students, tutors focus on helping students develop strategic learning skills: how to ask meaningful questions of the material, how to develop systematic ways of understanding, and how to solve problems. Tutors are trained in identifying and working with various learning styles helping students address the idiosyncratic ways they process and learn information. Sometimes students will seek out tutoring for help on a particular problem set in search of "the answer." A Resident Tutor's task is to help students analyze their conceptual understanding and identify conceptual gaps, using the material they do understand as a platform for building a higher level of understanding. Tutors ask questions and spend much of their energy helping students develop skills in explaining material. Tutors do not provide answers, but rather teach students how to think about and solve problems.

Resident Tutors specifically help students build their understanding of key concepts in introductory Chemistry, Economics, Math, and Physics courses in concert with the methods and perspectives of the course as it is currently taught. If a student is seeking support in upper-division courses in these disciplines, or in courses in Psychology 1, Engineering, Computer Science, Statistics, Biology, Human Biology, or Foreign Languages, the Resident Tutor will refer the student to individual tutoring, appointments for which can be made online.

While all Resident Tutors hold drop-in tutoring hours for at least 6 hours a week (Sunday through Thursday nights), the staff role of the Resident Tutor varies from dorm to dorm. Some Resident Tutors are fully-involved members of residential staff team; some resident tutors play little or no role in dorm activities. Most dorms are able to provide single rooms to Resident Tutors. For more information about specific staff roles, please contact the Resident Fellow for that dorm.

Resident Tutors are required to attend training which takes place over three days, the week prior to New Student Orientation. Four hours of additional "on-the-job" training commence once the quarter begins. To support the tutoring program both logistically and methodologically, tutors are required to attend quarterly meetings. Tutors are also asked to assist in the recruitment, interviewing, and training of new tutors.