

What is Jumpstart?

Jumpstart is a national program that has been training college students for 25 years in early childhood development, specifically language, literacy, and social-emotional. Jumpstart operates at many university campuses in Mississippi. The MUW Jumpstart program has been serving young children in our community for seven years. Through a proven curriculum, these children develop skills they need to be ready for school, setting them on a path to close the achievement gap before it is too late. Jumpstart's mission is to work toward the day every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed (no matter what the family's income, status, or zip code is – which are all indicators of a child's success in school, according to research). Watch this video to learn more: https://youtu.be/jMMuqFT3V_I

What is required?

- MUW college students of all majors are eligible to join Jumpstart. MUW CPDC Federal Work-Study students are encouraged to join Jumpstart because those hours count towards Jumpstart program service and double-dip in the benefits.
- Corps members receive high-quality pre-service & mid-year training to help them implement Jumpstart's outcome-based program, promote children's school success, and build family involvement.
- Corps members pledge to complete 300 hours of service during the fall & spring school year. Corps members serve part-time, 10-15 hours per week during the school year.

What are the qualifications & experience?

- Corps members must exhibit dedication to early childhood education through the required training and ongoing observation & feedback for program quality assurance.
- Corps members must display a commitment to service and professionalism.

What are the compensations & benefits?

- Corps members have the potential to earn Federal Work-Study during their term of service.
- Corps members have the potential to earn a Segal education award (approximately \$1,300) to pay for tuition, loans, or other qualified expenses.
- Corps members have the unique opportunity to enhance knowledge and skills in early childhood education while joining AmeriCorps, a national network that earns community service hours. This invaluable opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young children from our community will set you apart from others in future career options.

Where & when do Corps members serve?

- We currently have two program partner sites that hold "Jumpstart Sessions" on either Mondays & Wednesdays or Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2:00 to 5:00 PM.
 1. An on-campus site at the MUW CPDC
 2. An off-campus site at The Assembly Kids Academy on Military Road
- In addition to the "Jumpstart Sessions," members also visit their program partner site to serve the children through "individual classroom assistance." The days and times of this service are based on the Corps members' availability in cooperation with the site's classroom schedule.
- "Independent planning" and "team planning meetings" are also requirements to prepare for the Jumpstart Sessions. These hours of preparation (including the "Jumpstart Sessions" and "individual classroom assistance" services) all count within the total 10-15 hours of weekly service.

What is a "Jumpstart Session?"

Upon completion of training, the team of college students (known as Corps members of Jumpstart) goes into our program partner sites to host "Jumpstart Sessions" with the 3-5-year-olds. The sessions are part of Jumpstart's supplemental curriculum. You do not create your lessons or ideas; researched educators have already designed everything. You just take the session plan, plan for the activities (with the provided materials available to you, so no out-of-own pocket expenses), and deliver it to the children with your assigned team of Corps members. You will have opportunities within the Session to work with children in whole groups, small groups, and one on one. You will not be alone; you will serve the children with your team of fellow Jumpstart Corps members and receive support & guidance from classroom teachers and staff.

What is "Individual Classroom Assistance?"

This service is an excellent opportunity for individual Corps members to visit the site independently to assist the classroom teachers in any learning activities and to have fun while building relationships with your special little "Jumpstart buddies." These service hours can occur any day or time that fits your personal/course schedule in cooperation with your site's classroom schedule.

What type of individual or team preparation is required?

Not all 10-15 weekly hours are served at the sites and with the children. Some of your service (usually 1-2 hours a week) is completed on your own time, preparing for your sessions (both individually and as a team). This preparation involves reviewing the week's Session Plan, practicing the storybook read-aloud and songs, and preparing games, crafts, or activities. Materials needed to prepare for sessions are provided to Corps members. However, if you have any personal materials or props that can enhance the Session, that is welcomed too.

How to Apply to Jumpstart?

1. Complete the online Jumpstart Corps member application at

<https://my.jstart.org/apply/>

- Enter your information for all sections.
- For the section: "*College Information*," question: "*Your College/University*," click on "*Mississippi University for Women*" from the drop-down box.
- For the section: "*Federal Work-Study*," question: "*If you are not eligible for federal work-study, would you be willing to participate in Jumpstart as a volunteer?*" Check "YES." *Note: Members who are not eligible for Federal Work-Study can still earn the Segal Education Award of approximately \$1,300 upon program completion.
- For the section: "*Service Details*," question: "*Service Year*," click on "2022-2023."
- For the question: "*State*," click on "MS."
- For the question: "*Site*," click on "*Mississippi University for Women*."
- For the question: "*Corps Member Role*," select "*Corps Member*."
- For the section: "*Availability*," click the box: "*I do NOT yet know my availability*."
*Note: In the place of completing this section, you will email your "Detailed Course Schedule" (screenshot or scanned pdf document) from your student Banner Web account to the MUW Jumpstart Program Site Manager. If you have not registered yet for courses, make sure to communicate this.
- Uploading a copy of your resume is not required but is recommended.
- Click "*Apply Today*" at the bottom of the screen to submit your completed application.
- Email the MUW Jumpstart Program Site Manager to ensure your application was received and begin the next steps towards the application & selection process.

2. Complete the FAFSA form at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

- Use Federal School Code: 002422
- Make sure to mark "YES" to the question that inquires if you are interested in Federal Work-Study

3. Contact the Office of Financial Aid to request an application for Federal Work-Study and Human Resources.

- The Federal Work-Study program is a form of need-based financial aid. Need and eligibility are determined based on your FAFSA. If you have trouble completing the Federal Work-Study application or the FAFSA, contact the Office of Financial at (662) 329-7114. Once you receive notification of the Federal-Work Study, contact the MUW Jumpstart Program Site Manager for the next steps.

MUW Jumpstart Program Site Manager: Rose Ford, email: rmford1@muw.edu