



High School Squad Leader

Job Status

Volunteer* (stipend available upon request)

Position Reports To

Community Team

Work Week

Wednesdays 1-3 pm, + 1 hr flexible team meeting

+ About Rainier Athletes (RA)

RA's mission is to affirm our youth's sense of purpose and belonging by intentionally connecting their community of teachers, coaches, families, and mentors. We begin the journey with students and their families in fourth or fifth grade and continue through high school graduation and beyond. Each student is fully sponsored year-round to participate in extracurriculars and summer camps, paired with a dedicated mentor who meets with them every week, and motivated to achieve on and off the field through RA's classroom engagement and self-advocacy model.

+ Celebrating 10 Years of Impact

In the spring of 2013, Rainier Athletes piloted a sports scholarship program, fully funding three students from a Title 1 elementary school to play Little League Baseball for the first time. In partnership with these students, their families, coaches, and teachers, RA quickly recognized that participation in organized sports was a vehicle for much more impactful conversation and growth.

For the next four years, led completely by volunteers, the scope of RA expanded. The core mission of RA shifted to connecting youth with dedicated mentors, elevating their voices in and out of the classroom, and engaging the students' families, teachers, and coaches every step of the way. In 2016, RA became a 501(c)3 non-profit and tripled its fundraising efforts to just over \$200,000. With this funding, RA hired its first employee and selected its founding Board of Directors, most of whom are still active on the board today.

Now, in 2023, RA is uniquely positioned to dramatically expand our scope and impact. While our name implies a focus on athletics, we recognize that the support of a dedicated mentor

has benefits for all students. RA students are artists and engineers too! We're growing our small but mighty team with the goal of expanding opportunities in scope, geography, and impact!.

+ Join RA's Mentoring Movement

Squad Leaders are responsible for leading a Rainier Athletes High School Squad - a small group of 5-6 students ranging from 9th-12th grade. Responsibilities include coordinating logistics, prepping for and ultimately leading weekly 1-2 hr long Squad Meet-Ups. These Squad Meet-Ups may include topical discussions, study sessions, and other activities to strengthen authentic relationships, engage community, or build towards each student's next step plan after high school. Collaboration is a key element to the program's success; Squad Leaders will have formal opportunities to connect with other Squad Leaders and RA's High School Lead to share highlights, challenges, and best practices.

+ Responsibilities & Duties

Mentorship (80%)

- Encourage self-discovery in conversations with students by focusing on self-advocacy, positive identity development, and critical thinking in order for students to discover and take pride in their own voice, perspective and solutions
- Provide social and emotional support
- Serve as accountability and development coach for short and long term goals

Academics (10%)

- Continuously track students' class specifics and discuss opportunities for improvement with students
- Build relationships with teachers and support students in connecting with their teachers
- Encourage and connect to academic supports including school staff and/or other tutoring as applicable

ONE TEAM Community Engagement (10%)

- Build relationships with parents/guardians and others in the students' families
- Connect with students' coaches and attend sporting events in support of students that are playing on teams
- Encourage and support the passions of each student by attending art shows, musical or theatrical performances and/or other events
- Connect with community resources in support of student and family needs as applicable

+ Benefits

- Leadership development
- Team-based progressive environment
- Coaching and mentoring
- Community partner-based benefits/discounts
- Volunteer experience + barrier removing stipend upon request (for gas, meals, childcare, time away from work)

+ Preferred Experience and Qualifications

Must Haves

- Teachable, humble, heart for all people, willingness to go above and beyond the basic requirements to serve students and families
- Consistency and follow through
- Proactive communication
- Willingness to have challenging conversations and face confrontations
- Availability on Wednesdays (average weekly time commitment is 2-3 hours)
- Access to personal vehicle or other reliable transportation
- Access to personal computer
- Inspired by RA's mission to affirm a student's sense of purpose and belonging by connecting their core community

Nice to Haves

- Prior experience mentoring youth and working with groups
- Familiarity with communication platforms such as Gmail and Basecamp
- Familiarity with tracking and storage platforms such as Google Drive and Smartsheets
- Language proficiency in Spanish, Arabic, Punjabi, and/or other languages

+ To Apply

To apply for this role, please fill out the volunteer mentor application at rainierathletes.org/ra-mentor-application. For any questions, please email us at hello@rainierathletes.org.