



Somali Adult Literacy Training (SALT) Volunteer

WHAT IS SALT (Somali Adult Literacy Training)?

Our Somali neighbors have escaped the violence of civil war and hardship of refugee camps. Now they are surviving Minnesota winters as they learn English and how to thrive in their new homeland. Would you join us, with the love of Jesus, in welcoming our new neighbors?

SALT operates in teams of tutors, led by site coordinators in several Twin Cities, and greater Minnesota locations. Would you like to build a friendship with a Somali neighbor as you help them learn English and achieve goals like citizenship and employment? Visit the SALT site near you and shadow an experienced tutor before making a long-term commitment.

SALT TUTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Purpose of position

Build friendship while helping students learn to communicate in English, possibly learning to read and write for the first time in their lives. Your job is to learn their name, their family, their story, and their needs & goals. As you pray for them and coach them in English, you will help them achieve their dreams. Your reward will be learning and sharing stories and the joy of life transformation together.

Qualifications:

Volunteer tutors should enjoy:

- Getting to know your student as an individual, as well as in their family context, while learning about Somali language and culture
- Helping your student discover the joy of learning, especially reading and writing

Volunteer tutors should be:

- Growing in obedience to Christ demonstrated in friendliness, encouragement, compassion, patience, flexibility and humility
- Respectful of confidentiality, dependable and prompt, even if your student isn't

Training

Tutors will participate in pre-service and/or in-service training. Ask your coordinator about an orientation session, the 12 hour ESL training series offered by the Minnesota Literacy Council¹,

¹ <http://www.mnliteracy.org/>

workshops relating to teaching English, Somali culture, etc., and on-the-job coaching from lead teachers, coordinators, and SALT staff.

Time commitment

Ongoing weekly meetings in a long-term relationship, at least for a school year, and ideally for life.

Expectations

- Interview student to find out needs and desires for learning
Pray for student, as you coach to achieve his/her goals, giving them the tools to read, discover, and think critically.
- Keep records of student's progress and celebrate success
- Help refer student to other resources as needs arise.
- Report directly to the coordinator. Notify coordinator if problems arise.

How do I become a SALT volunteer?

1. Prospective volunteers may visit SALT two times before committing by completing the [volunteer application](#). At that time you will also be sent a link for a background check.
2. Our Volunteer Coordinator will forward your pertinent information and Background Check Release Form acceptance to the SALT Director, Mike Neterer, and to the appropriate SALT Site Coordinator.
3. You will be contacted by your SALT Site Coordinator for further details regarding training.
4. You will meet with your SALT assignee on a regular basis and maintain communication with your SALT Site Coordinator.

Contact: For more information, please contact Arrive Ministries' Volunteer Coordinator at 612-746-5633 or email us at [mvolunteers@arriveministries.org](mailto:m volunteers@arriveministries.org).