

I would like to let you know about a unique opportunity to enhance your resume and at the same time gain valuable hands-on tax preparation experience by becoming involved as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) volunteer.

VITA is a free tax preparation program offered to low income, elderly and disabled members of the community who are not able to pay for these services. During the 2012 filing season, our VITA student volunteers logged over 15,000 hours, prepared over 5,000 Federal and state tax returns and generated over \$3 million in tax refunds for our clients. According to the IRS, our VITA program was ranked #36 out of approximately 12,000 non-military VITA sites nationwide - a spectacular accomplishment.

Not only do we perform a valuable service for our local community, there are also many benefits available for volunteers, including:

- ❑ Enhanced resume
- ❑ Nationally-recognized certifications to prepare individual tax returns
- ❑ Personal IRS Recognition Certificate for students who work a specified number of hours
- ❑ A chance to gain managerial experience
- ❑ Personalized recommendations from York College VITA directors
- ❑ A great place to meet new friends and network
- ❑ An invitation to our Recognition Ceremony in May 2013

Student volunteers will learn how to prepare income tax returns using professional tax preparation software. No prior income tax exposure or tax class is necessary and you do not need to be an accounting major. The students selected to participate in the program will receive ALL the necessary training (tax law and tax software). In addition, students will acquire a number of other skills such as problem solving, teamwork, critical thinking and leadership that are considered valuable to entry-level business professionals. For accounting majors, this is also an excellent opportunity for you to gain exposure to income taxes prior to completing a course in taxation and should increase your chances of being successful in the tax course. If you have already taken your tax course, this is a chance to apply material learned in that class.

A VITA volunteer experience is one that is unmatched. **If you would like to be considered for the**

program, please email freetaxprep@york.cuny.edu.

York College VITA Coordinator