

Amber Lynn Cox-Pretti
725 Seffert Street
Philadelphia PA 19128
215.305.7737
amberlynncox10@gmail.com

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Dear Hiring Manager,

For over nine years, I have dedicated my life to helping Philadelphia students get back on track toward graduation as a City Year staff member and director. As I look towards pursuing a Master's Degree in Education and finding a path back to the classroom, I strongly desire to continue working toward education equity. I am passionate about ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their potential, and working with children in the critical early years of their development is an essential step. As an Early Years Assistant Teacher with CORA Services, I would be able to utilize years of experience in student learning and development to support programming that is enriching and supportive, while continuing to better myself as an educator.

During my time at City Year, I have had a proven track record of exceeding goals, including ones focused on student impact and lesson planning. I have strong background experience in data-driven decision making, which can be applied directly to reaching and exceeding goals for children and programming. My own experience has taught me that student success is an extremely collaborative effort, and I have both the skills and experience to collaborate for larger goals. Most importantly, my experience in strategic thinking in an educational space would allow me to independently discover, assess, and overcome any potential obstacles to student success and engagement.

As the leader on literacy strategy for City Year Philadelphia over the past six years, I have developed advanced skills in fluency, vocabulary and comprehension instruction for children. In addition, my experience in enrichment programs for 3rd through 8th grade students has included tutoring, service learning, theater and swing dance. These experiences would help me support the lesson planning of a lead teacher. Through work supporting teachers in the classroom setting, running interventions and after-school programs, I have grown my skills in supporting behavior management, creating effective structures in a classroom, and supporting students and their social emotional growth. These experiences are a solid foundation for being an assistant teacher for the early years and I am confident that I could transfer my knowledge of working with 3rd-8th graders to younger students.

The Early Years Assistant Teacher position is an opportunity for me to get back to my roots in direct school service, focusing on my passion for creating spaces for student learning. I strongly feel that I can bring knowledge and experience to the position, while learning and growing from a new program and a focus on early learning. Thank you for your time and consideration for this position. I would be very excited to hear back and learn more about CORA Services and the Early Years Assistant Teacher position.

Sincerely,

Amber Cox-Pretti