

Knowledge of the English language is a key component for professional and social life in the United States. Project Bridge helps bridge the language gap for Rollins' staff who wish to enhance their ability to converse, read, and write in the English language.

<u>Mission:</u> Project Bridge is a campus wide organization in which Rollins' staff is provided the opportunity to take English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, empowering them with the skills to properly communicate in the English language. The classes are offered to staff mid-day on Rollins' campus by a certified ESL instructor. In addition to classes, each staff member is provided the opportunity to utilize another Rollins' student as a free English tutor through Project Bridge. Project Bridge is an organization that helps bridge the language, cultural, and social gap between staff and students. Project Bridge is an experience that positively benefits all who are involved.

<u>Benefits:</u> Members of the Rollins' community are given the opportunity to tutor the staff in small group settings. Tutors may work with one to three ESL students. This provides an instantly rewarding option that allows students to earn service hours, tutoring experience, and develop meaningful relationships with the Rollins' staff.

**Requirements:** No previous tutoring experience is necessary, training will be provided. Tutors are required to show a positive attitude and respect towards the staff. They must also arrange weekly tutoring sessions with their assigned staff member(s) and meet on a consistent basis. Tutors are also required to attend all tutor training meetings.

<u>History</u>: Project Bridge was started in 2008 by a single Rollins' professor who witnessed the need and desire for ESL classes to be offered on campus. She then taught those classes for many years. She also acquired help from Spanish language students and the Latin American Students Association to serve as tutors to her ESL students/staff members. Project Bridge continues to grow and is now supported by the Office of Community Engagement (OCE), Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), Facilities, and Sodexo Inc.

<u>Contacts:</u> If you are interested in being a part of Project Bridge, please contact Sade Sims and Taylor McGowan at <u>projectbridge@rollins.edu</u>.

Thank you for your interest in Project Bridge!!