# TUTORS TO TEACHERS Highlights

February/March 2025

## CHECK OUT THE LATEST IN T2T NEWS!

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

### Collaborating Partners

The Tutors To Teachers program currently collaborates with the following districts: Franklin County Public School, Frederick County Public Schools, and Prince William County Public Schools. Our tutoring sessions focus on reading and language arts, math, and science for students in grades 3-8.

### T2T By The Numbers

3200+

Sessions

and counting!



Current Tutors: Back Row: Ethan, Sarah, Jazsmine, Sabrina, and Ryan. Front Row: Aascharya and Ruthu

> Current Tutors: Camille & Maryam

### WE'D LOVE TO HEAR IT!

E-mail akitsantas@gmu.edu or rpamas@gmu.edu

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# **TUTORS TO TEACHERS** Tutor-of-the-Month

GEORGE MASON

February/March 2025

### MEET AARUSHI

A **freshman** at George Mason University, majoring in **Business** with a concentration in Finance.

Favorite Part About Tutoring

"The joy I feel when I see my tutees' faces light up with that moment of understanding."

#### Can you describe your experience as a tutor?

My experience as a tutor has been one of growth and fulfillment. When I first started, I was eager to share my knowledge and help others, but I quickly realized that it's not just about knowing the material—it's about understanding how each student learns and tailoring my approach to meet their unique needs. There have been moments when a student struggled to grasp a concept, and seeing them push through that frustration and succeed extremely gratifying. Every student is different, and each session feels like an opportunity to learn something new—not just for them, but for me as well. It has truly been an eye-opening experience that has deepened my appreciation for both teaching and

learning.

### How has your tutoring helped students master the content and become independent learners?

My tutoring approach is centered on helping students not only grasp the content but also develop the skills and confidence they need to become independent learners. For example, I've worked with a student who struggled with time management while preparing for exams. We created a study plan together, breaking down the material into smaller, more manageable chunks, and I showed them techniques for staying focused and organized. Over time, I noticed the student becoming more confident in their ability to work through problems independently. Seeing my student go from depending on me for answers to solving problems on their own has been incredibly fulfilling, and the smile on their face when they share their success fills me with pride, knowing the positive impact I am making through the T2T program.



I believe my tutoring has made a significant impact in the learning journey of my tutees.

In what ways has the T2T program helped you become a better learner? The Tutors to Teachers (T2T) program has taught me to approach learning with a deeper level of curiosity and mindfulness. The T2T program covers self-regulated learning, which has allowed me to develop better study habits, including time-management skills, goal-setting, and confidence in my learning. I've gained a better understanding of how to organize my own study strategies and approach difficult material with more patience and focus. The skills I've learned in T2T, such as active listening and adapting my explanations, have made me more aware of my own learning processes and have helped me become more efficient in my own studies. I now approach challenges with a mindset of resilience, which has been a game-changer in my academic journey.

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# TUTORS TO TEACHERS

GEORGE MASON

February/March 2025

### MEET AYMAN

A **senior** at George Mason University, majoring in **Global Affairs** and minoring in Conflict Analysis and Resolution

Favorite Part About Tutoring

"Noticing the progress that my tutee is making with time and practice."

#### Can you describe your experience as a tutor?

I have been blessed enough to tutor two incredibly bright elementary school students who have motivated me to become a better instructor and learner. I gained a lot of respect for teachers and understood the importance of refining basic concepts prior to moving onto broader ones.



There's something incredibly rewarding about guiding someone through a tough concept and watching them go from feeling overwhelmed to confident.

In what ways has the T2T program helped you become a better learner? T2T has allowed me to explore various avenues to assist my tutees and their needs. I have come to realize that the best teacher is the kind who is consistently learning. I am always motivated to find opportunities that could help me learn how to become a better tutor.

### How has your tutoring helped students master the content and become independent learners?

My tutoring has helped both of my students become confident in their ability to solve math problems. From struggling to understand the first steps of the problem to solving it entirely by themselves, I believe my tutoring has made a significant impact in the learning journey of my tutees.

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# **TUTORS TO TEACHERS** Mentor-of-the-Month

GEORGE MASON

#### February/March 2025

### MEET DINA

A **senior** at George Mason University, majoring in **Psychology**.

Favorite Part About Tutoring

"Finding ways to incorporate productive silliness into my lessons. Learning is the main goal but tutees should always have a reason to smile in lessons!"

### 1. Can you describe your experience with serving as a mentor tutor?

This experience has been a tremendous opportunity for me! I started tutoring because I love working with children. Now, being a mentor tutor I get to share and encourage that love in others. I have an ocean of support and inspiration from our amazing administrators and faculty and in addition to that, I get to work and grow alongside some of the most creative and dedicated tutors and mentors.

#### 3. How has mentoring helped you become a better learner? How has it helped with becoming a better tutor?

Being a mentor has pushed me to think outside of the box to come up with creative ideas or solutions in order to support our tutors and tutees. With this, I have learned that there are plenty of ways and angles to approach learning and sometimes the most obvious answer will not always end up being the best fit. I am incredibly grateful to have learned this as it has not only bettered how I tutor but it has also bettered how learn for myself and my own studies.



Being a mentor has pushed me to think outside of the box to come up with creative ideas or solutions in order to support our tutors and tutees.

### 2. How do you feel you are helping current tutors? Can you provide some examples?

I hope I have been able to serve as a source of support for our tutors. My biggest goal is to be a safe space for them so that they feel they could ask me any question in the world without fear of judgement or embarrassment. I have been asked questions and for guidance on all sorts of topics, ranging from: weekly scheduling, brainstorming lesson plans, finding materials, curriculum standards, operating our tutoring platform, behavior management, and adjusting to university life.

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# TUTORS TO TEACHERS Mentor-of-the-Month

GEORGE MASON

February/March 2025

### MEET SOPHIE

A **senior** at George Mason University, majoring in **Business Analytics.** 

Favorite Part About Tutoring

"Helping kids get the extra support they need and creating learning experiences tailored to them."

### 1. Can you describe your experience with serving as a mentor tutor?

My experience with serving as a mentor tutor has been a great experience. I have tutored for multiple semesters with both George Mason University and EduTutorVA and found my roles very fulfilling. This semester I had to prioritize a much higher course load and take a step back from tutoring to focus on my own schoolwork. Being a mentor tutor has allowed me to be able to enjoy still helping students indirectly.

### 3. How has mentoring helped you become a better learner? How has it helped with becoming a better tutor?

Mentoring helped me become a better learner because it put me in a position to help me reexamine how I learned and engaged in academic settings myself. There are learning practices and methods which were unfamiliar to me that I implemented in my own life. The more time I spend mentoring and tutoring, the more I learn myself. Being able to practice and find new ways to teach over the years has helped me become a better tutor.



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### 2. How do you feel you are helping current tutors? Can you provide some examples?

I am able to help current tutors by helping them find ways to engage in Self-Regulated Learning (SRL). We cover ways to help students express their thought process in their own words and how comfortable they are with specific topics and problems.

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