

LOS ALAMITOS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Office of the Personnel Commission

CLASS TITLE: INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT - Orchestra String Specialist

**BASIC FUNCTION:**

Under the direction of the principal, assist the certificated teacher in providing comprehensive instruction on violin, viola, cello, and/or bass to elementary, middle, and/or high school students. This role involves supporting students across a spectrum of skill levels, from beginners learning the basics of string instruments to advanced musicians refining their technique and artistry. The IA will play a crucial role in developing students' musical abilities, fostering a passion for orchestral music, and enhancing their performance skills through individual and group instruction. Additionally, the IA will contribute to the preparation and execution of school concerts and performances, facilitating a rich, educational, and inspiring experience for both students and the school community.

**REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:**

1. Assist in teaching violin, viola, cello, and bass to students at various levels of proficiency, from beginner to advanced.
2. Support the certificated teacher in developing and implementing lesson plans and instructional materials tailored to the needs of string students.
3. Provide individual and small group instruction to students, focusing on the technique, intonation, and musical expression.
4. Monitor and assess students' progress in learning string instruments, providing feedback and adjustments to instructional approaches as needed.
5. Prepare and organize music pieces for classroom instruction, rehearsals, and performances.
6. Assist in coordinating and conducting rehearsals for school orchestras and ensembles, ensuring a cohesive and harmonious performance.
7. Facilitate a positive and nurturing learning environment that encourages students' musical growth and self-confidence.
8. Assist with the maintenance and care of string instruments and music equipment, ensuring they are in good condition for student use.

9. Participate in school concerts, performances, and music events, providing support in stage setup and performance logistics.
10. Engage in professional development opportunities to enhance teaching skills and stay updated with best practices in music education and string pedagogy.
11. Perform other related duties as assigned.

## KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

### KNOWLEDGE OF:

- Comprehensive knowledge of one or more string instruments (violin, viola, cello, bass) and their maintenance
- Understanding of music theory, notation, and sight-reading as applied to string instruments
- Familiarity with a variety of teaching methods and pedagogies for string education
- Awareness of the developmental stages of children and adolescents in relation to music education
- Knowledge of a wide repertoire of music suitable for different ages and skill levels
- Understanding of performance practice, including ensemble and solo settings

### ABILITY TO:

- Ability to effectively communicate and demonstrate string instrument techniques to students of varying ages and skill levels
- Ability to adapt teaching methods to cater to individual learning styles and needs
- Ability to collaborate with teachers and staff to enhance the music education program
- Ability to assist in organizing and managing classroom activities, rehearsals, and performances
- Ability to motivate and inspire students to excel in their musical endeavors
- Ability to assist in maintaining and repairing string instruments, ensuring they are in optimal playing condition
- Ability to stay current with educational practices and developments in music education and string pedagogy

## EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: An Associate's Degree or higher from an accredited college or university, or be currently enrolled in college-level courses; and preferred two years of experience working with youth in an organized setting, and or string students in a group setting

**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

School environment which includes standing, walking, sitting, kneeling, squatting, stooping and bending; lift, carry, push or pull up to 50 lbs., duties may include activities which involve repetitive use of hands, arms or shoulder and twisting or pressure involving wrists or hands and working with arms above shoulder level; give student direction requiring clear speaking, the ability to hear normal voice conversation, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus; exposed to minor contagious illnesses (e.g. colds, flu).

**SALARY RANGE: 48**

**ADOPTED BY PERSONNEL COMMISSION: March 21, 2024**

**ADOPTED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION: April 16, 2024**