

2019-2020 Peer Mentor/Pack Leader Information

What is a Peer Mentor/Pack Leader?

- Peer Mentors (or Pack Leaders) work to create a comfortable and safe environment in which entering students can individually and collectively “find their fit” in the HBU community and provide new students with the tools and knowledge they need to start their college career.
- During Welcome Days, the responsibilities of a Pack Leader are to lead a small group, attend all Welcome Days functions, and help new students get acquainted with the campus. As a returning HBU student, Pack Leaders are asked to invest in the lives of incoming students as they transition into a new stage of life. This will be a very rewarding experience and a time when fun memories are made.
- Your duty as a Pack Leader will extend beyond the four days of Welcome Days, as you will also serve as a Peer Mentor for these incoming students throughout the first semester. Also, you will serve as a liaison to incoming students throughout the spring semester. See below for additional responsibilities during the fall semester.

How will Peer Mentors benefit?

- Many of the skills learned are transferrable to careers after HBU. Peer Mentors will increase their self-awareness of their leadership styles and strategies, develop a deeper understanding of group work, learn how to effectively facilitate discussions and/or meetings, and improve their ability to think reflectively and critically.

Responsibilities of a Peer Mentor

- Complete the Student Leader Common Application (www.hbu.edu/leadership) and submit by Friday, February 1st.
- Attend a mandatory **Student Leadership Retreat** to be held off campus for 2-3 days between August 12-14, 2017.
- Attend and participate in all Peer Mentor/Pack Leader training in August 2017. **Pack Leaders living on campus will be REQUIRED to move in to the residence halls early.**
- Assist with sending email communication throughout the summer months.
- Share your HBU experiences with your students to help them understand the importance of academics and college life.
- Take your group to all Welcome Days activities and maintain a timely manner.
- **Attend a FYS Class during the Fall semester (MWF 11-1150)**
- Collaborate with other Peer Mentors and Faculty/Staff to enhance new student experiences.
- Help students become familiar with University resources.
- Serve as a role model exhibiting enthusiasm, motivation, and involvement.
- Exercise good judgment in representing the university and uphold institutional standards.
- Coordinate one social activity/team building event during the fall semester for your freshman year seminar class.
- Attend one-on-one meetings with the Coordinator of First & Second Year Programming and/or the FYS Intern throughout the fall and spring semesters.
- Serve as a Peer Mentor in the spring semester by conducting community groups and a continued connection with your FYS students.

Qualifications

- 2.5+ GPA. Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University.
- Sophomore, Junior, or Senior (not graduating before May 2020) standing by Fall 2019

- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to connect with a diverse group of students. Previous experiences leading groups (orientation, ambassador, etc.).
- Commitment to the purpose and mission of Houston Baptist University.
- **Demonstrated ACTIVE Christian faith**

Compensation

- Develop valuable leadership skills, working with small and large groups, and a variety of individuals.
- Develop a professional relationship with your first faculty and advisor.
- Students may be eligible to receive a grant (\$1000/fall semester; \$600/spring semester)

Interviews

- After completing the Common Application, applicants need to sign up for a time for an individual interview by going to <https://fyspeermentorinterview.as.me/schedule.php>
 - **Round 1:** Individual Interviews will be conducted February 6th to February 20th in Library 117 (Please go to <https://fyspeermentorinterview.as.me/schedule.php> to sign up for an interview time).
- After the first round of interviews, applicants will be notified if they will be moving forward to the second round of interviews by Thursday, February 21st.
 - **Round 2:** Mandatory Group Interview will be conducted on Monday, February 25th from 7PM until 8PM in Dillon II (Hinton 135) ** The only exception to this is if you have class. Work, organization meetings, etc. will not be accepted as a valid excuse for missing the second round interview.