



First Year Seminar (FYS) Peer Mentor – Fall 2024-Spring 2025

ROLES OF A PEER MENTOR:

- FYS Peer Mentors help welcome new students to HCU and to "find their fit" in the HCU community. They walk alongside incoming students as a liaison and connection to resources and ways to be successful at HCU.
- During Welcome Days, the responsibilities of a FYS Peer Mentor is to serve as a Welcome Days Pack Leader. As a Pack Leader, they lead a small group of incoming students (that will more than likely be in their FYS class), attend all Welcome Days functions, and help new students get acquainted with the campus. This will be a very rewarding experience and a time when fun memories are made.
- After Welcome Days, Pack Leaders will continue to lead your Pack from Welcome Days as a Peer Mentor not only for the FYS class, but throughout their first year in college.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A PEER MENTOR:

Mandatory – Nonnegotiable

- * Attend Student Leadership/Discipleship Celebration event taking place in the **Spring 2024 semester – date and time TBD**.
- * Attend Student Leadership Retreat to be held off campus for 3 days taking place in **August 4-6, 2024**
- * Attend and participate in all Peer Mentor/Pack Leader training in August 2024. **Pack Leaders living on campus will be REQUIRED to move in to the residence halls early.**
- * Attend and participate in FYS Instructor and Peer Mentor training in August 2024.
- * Attend and participate in weekly meeting (day and time TBD).

Additional

- Be available via email and GroupMe over the summer as needed to plan for the fall semester.
- Participate **fully** in all Welcome Days activities and encourage your pack to do the same.
- **Attend your assigned FYS class (M,W,F 11am) and participate in class engagement.**
 - NOTE: You will not formally register for the class.
- Share your HCU experiences with your students to help them understand the importance of academics and college life.
- 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.

- Work with committee of other Peer Mentors to create a social activity/team building event during the academic year for the freshman class.
- Attend all Peer Mentor meetings/one-on-ones/trainings throughout the school year.
- Continue to serve as a Peer Mentor in the spring semester by hosting events and providing a continued connection with your FYS students.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Many of the skills learned are transferrable to careers after HCU. 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.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 2.5+ GPA. Must be in good academic and disciplinary standing with the University.
- Sophomore, Junior, or Senior (not graduating before May 2025) standing by Fall 2024.
- Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to connect with a diverse group of students.
- Previous leadership experience at or outside of HCU (orientation, ambassador, local church intern, etc.).
- Commitment to the purpose and mission of Houston Christian University.
- Demonstrated ACTIVE Christian faith.
- The ability to commit the time and energy needed each week to uphold the roles and responsibilities of the position.

COMPENSATION:

- Develop valuable leadership skills, working with small and large groups, and a variety of individuals.
- Develop a professional relationship with faculty and advisor.
- Students may be eligible to receive a grant (amount TBD) for the year.

THE INTERVIEW AND HIRING PROCESS:

Contact Tia Caster at tcaster@hc.edu for more information on this position.

- NOTE: There will be two rounds of interviews (individual and group) for those invited to take the next steps in the hiring process.