Multicultural Retention Services
Peer Mentor Application

ACCESS DSP EMPOWER GANAS NDNSS

Multicultural Retention Services (MRS) seeks students to serve as mentors to traditionally underrepresented students participating in the ACCESS, Diversity Scholarship, EMPOWER, GANAS, and NDNSS Programs at Portland State University. MRS Peer Mentors assist our programs by helping students understand what to expect during their transition to PSU, building community, and providing guidance through various academic experiences.

Responsibilities:
Mentors will fulfill an average of 3-5 hours each week throughout Fall, Winter and Spring Term. If selected, Mentors will be required to:
- Attend the mentor retreat, MRS new student orientation, and two-week connect program
- Meet and/or connect with mentees on a regular basis
- Plan events and activities for mentees in the program
- Attend all meetings, events, and study sessions held by MRS and individual programs
- Maintain and submit monthly mentor activity logs and quarterly mentor journal reflections
- Participate in other programs/events as assigned

Qualifications:
- Be an undergraduate student at PSU taking a minimum of 12 credits each term
- Be in good academic standing, with a minimum GPA of 2.5 (2.75 or higher is preferred)
- Have flexibility, excellent communication skills, and great leadership skills.
- Be a positive role model and team player
- Be able to represent PSU in a professional manner.
- Be comfortable engaging with students from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds
- Experience in previous leadership positions with knowledge of campus life at PSU is preferred.

Note: Students with more than 134 credits, at the time of application, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Compensation:
Possible compensation for mentors includes partial tuition remission or fulfillment of community service volunteer hours for each academic term.

Applications are due Monday, April 3rd, 2017 by 5PM

Important: Please note that Resident Assistants for the 2017-18 Academic year will not be eligible for this position. Applicants must be able to attend interview dates, the mentor retreat, and the MRS New Student Orientation to be fully considered.
Program Descriptions

ACCESS
Accessing the Cultural Capital Essential to Student Success
This program serves first-generation, low income, first-time students attending PSU, focusing primarily on the African/African-American/Black college experience. This program encourages and helps students build a sense of community, long lasting relationships and provides financial assistance. ACCESS peer mentors are expected to have learned to navigate PSU, have achieved academic excellence and have a desire to help other students succeed. Mentors will be required to actively participate in Multicultural Retention Services community building (social and cultural) activities and workshops and are responsible for creating a cultural connection, sense of community and for reinforcing the importance using campus resources.

DSP
Diversity Scholarship Program
The Diversity Scholarship Program is designed to expand and enrich PSU’s learning community by recognizing and supporting outstanding students from first generation and/or various cultural, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, with diverse talents, interests, and life experiences. The Diversity Scholarship Program is committed to helping students achieve their academic goals through academic support, general advising and peer mentorship. The program promotes diversity and participation in on campus student life through service learning and academic excellence.

*Only current DSP Scholars are eligible to apply to be peer mentors in this program.*

EMPOWER
EMPOWER is a year-long mentor program that fosters community and belonging among first-generation and low-income college students. This program focuses primarily on the Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander college student experience and is designed to assist new students at PSU with their transition to college. EMPOWER is committed to ensuring that each student receives personal, academic, social, and cultural support. Our Mentors play a crucial role in building and further connecting our growing community as a source of encouragement, support, and guidance for our students as they acclimate to PSU and become confident and successful students.

GANAS
Gaining Awareness and Networking for Academic Success
The GANAS program is for first-generation, low-income, first-time students at Portland State University. The program focuses primarily on the Latino/a student experience and is ideal for new students who may be seeing a cultural/community connection to the PSU campus. Mentors will meet and connect with students new to Portland State. This connection will help the cohort gain the skills and self-confidence to: navigate such a large university, be successful in college, and improve their potential to graduate.

NDNSS
Native Development Networking for Student Success
The Native Development Networking for Student Success (NDNSS) is a mentoring cohort for first-generation, low-income, and first time and transfer students entering PSU. The designed program assists new students’ transition to PSU from high school or community college. An assigned peer-mentor collaborates with students providing guidance, assistance in identifying resources, and navigating the campus system. Mentors and mentees will closely work with the Coordinator of Native American Student Services.
# Multicultural Retention Services
## 2017-2018 Mentor Application

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program(s) you are applying for:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ ACCESS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>☐ First Time Applicant</th>
<th>☐ Returning Applicant</th>
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<tr>
<th>PSU Student ID:</th>
<th>Year in School:</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>(Not class standing)</td>
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<th>Email Address:</th>
<th>Phone:</th>
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<th>Address:</th>
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<th>City:</th>
<th>State:</th>
<th>Zip:</th>
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<th>High School or Community College Attended:</th>
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<th>Major(s)/Minor(s):</th>
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<th>GPA:</th>
<th>Hometown:</th>
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<th>Would you like to be considered for a Lead Mentor Position?</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<th>Did you transfer to PSU from a different college/university?</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<th>Do you plan to live on campus for the 2017-18 academic year?</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<th>Have you ever lived on campus?</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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**Race & Ethnicity:** Please be specific when selecting options with provided space (eg. “Mexican”, “Chuukese”, “Siletz”, “Cuban”, “Afghan”, “Chinese-American”, etc). You may decline to provide this information without affecting your application. Check any/all that apply:

- ☐ Asian:_________________________________________________
- ☐ Pacific Islander______________________________________
- ☐ Hispanic, Latin@, Latinx______________________________
- ☐ Middle Eastern________________________________________
- ☐ Native American, Indigenous, Alaskan Native: _____________________________ (Tribal Affiliation)
- ☐ African | ☐ Black (non-Hispanic) | ☐ White (non-Hispanic) | ☐ Decline to Respond

| T-Shirt Size: | Jacket Size: |
Acknowledgement

Please read thoroughly before signing the application.

I have read and understand the Multicultural Retention Services Mentor Program description (pages 1 and 2). If selected to be a mentor, I certify that I will be available to attend all of the following events. Please indicate that you agree to attend each required event by writing your initials below:

- [ ] If selected and invited, participate in the interview process
  (details regarding interview process and dates are on Page 5)
- [ ] MRS Overnight Mentor Retreat & Training on September 6-7th, 2017
- [ ] MRS New Student Orientation on September 11th, 2017
- [ ] MRS Connect Program during the weeks of September 11th – 22nd, 2017

I certify that all of the information provided on this application is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give permission to verify my academic records for verification of current enrollment and academic standing.

___________________________________________________  __________ /__________ /___________
Applicant’s Signature         Date

Completed Mentor Application Checklist:

Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered eligible.

Please check each of the following below to indicate that you have submitted a complete mentor application.

☐ Completed and Signed Application
  (Pages 3 & 4 of application packet)

☐ Resume

☐ 2 References Listed
  Note: Please be sure to include their full names, phone number, email, and their professional position/title; They should be individuals who know your academic ability and potential for leadership. Please do not list family members as references.

☐ Completed Essay Question Responses
  Questions are on Page 5 of application packet

☐ If available, a listing of work/extracurricular activities for Fall 2017 detailing the hours you will be working, volunteering, or generally busy with

Please turn your application in to Multicultural Retention Services
  at Smith Memorial Student Union Suite 425.
Required Essay Questions
Please answer each of the following questions with no more than two paragraphs per response.

1. Why are you interested in becoming a Mentor?
2. What do you hope to gain from your mentoring experience?
3. In your opinion, why is a peer mentor program important?
4. Please describe your interest in working with the previously selected mentor program(s)?
5. What makes a good leader?
6. How would you best describe yourself? (ie. outgoing, shy, talkative, funny, serious etc...)
7. What are some interests and hobbies you have and what extracurricular activities are you currently involved with at PSU?

Next Steps and Interviews...
Once the deadline has passed, applications will be reviewed. Applicants who have passed reviews will then receive an email no later than Wednesday, April 5th, 2017, with an invitation and a link to sign up for an interview time and date. Applicants who are not selected for an interview will also be notified via email by April 5th, 2017.

All new applicants are required to take part in group interviews, and if selected, panel interviews thereafter. All returning applicants are required to take part in an individual interview and will be contacted by the program coordinator to schedule individual interviews. Decision emails will be sent no later than March 28th, 2017.

Please refer to the timeline below for a range of dates in which interviews will take place:

- Application Due: April 3rd, 2017
- For New Applicants:
  - Group Interviews: April 10th-14th, 2017
  - Panel Interviews: April 17th-25th, 2017
- For Returning Applicants:
  - Individual Interviews: Throughout the month of April
- Final Mentor Decisions: April 28th, 2017