Multicultural Retention Services
Returning Peer Mentor Application

ACCESS DSP EMPOWER GANAS NATIONS

Multicultural Retention Services (MRS) seeks students to serve as mentors to traditionally underrepresented (first generation, low-income) students participating in the ACCESS, Diversity Scholarship (DSP), EMPOWER, GANAS, and NATIONS Programs at Portland State University.

The MRS programs assist new and incoming students at PSU during their transition to the university throughout their first year, and reach their academic goals by providing:

- general advising
- student advocacy and support
- community and relationship building opportunities
- peer mentorship
- financial assistance connections to resources and services
- an inclusive academic environment.

As illustrated in the pictograph to the right, each of program focuses on a culturally specific experience in higher education that intersects with the low-income and first generation college student identity.

**Mentor Job Description:**

MRS Peer Mentors assist our programs by providing guidance, connection, support, and encouragement to our students as they acclimate to campus throughout their first year at PSU with an emphasis on building community and strengthening connections to resources and services. Mentors also serve as part of a leadership team to support and plan program and MRS community events and workshops in addition to working directly with their assigned mentees.
**Mentor 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 Spring Enrichment Sessions, Summer retreat, Fall MRS new student orientation and 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, workshops, and study sessions held by MRS and individual programs throughout the academic year
- Maintain and submit monthly mentor activity logs and quarterly mentor journal reflections
- Assist in program outreach events
- Participate in other programs/events as assigned

**Qualifications:**

- Undergraduate level PSU student taking a minimum of 12 credits each term
- Good academic standing, with a minimum GPA of 2.75 (Note: Lead Mentors must be at 2.9)
- 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 Friday, January, 10th 2020 by 5PM at MRS**

*Important: Training schedules for the following positions: UNST Mentors, Resident Assistants, Learning Community Assistants & Student Ambassadors may conflict with required MRS Mentor training in the Spring and Fall. Applicants must be able to attend interview dates, MRS Mentor enrichment sessions, retreat and training days, and the MRS Orientation & Connect to be fully considered. If accepted MRS applicants are offered any of the above positions and responsibilities conflict, they will have to decide on which program to commit to. In addition, 2nd year Build Exito Scholars will be ineligible for the DSP Mentor position.*

**Next Steps and Interviews..**
Once the deadline has passed, applications will be reviewed. All Conditional Decision emails will be sent no later than March 13th, 2020. All Final Decision emails will be sent May 15th, 2020.

**General Returning Mentor Applicants** will only go through an application review process.

**Lead Mentor Applicants** who have passed the application selection process are required to participate in a panel interview. Invitations to interviews will be sent by Thursday, January 16th, 2020, with a confirmed time based on the applicant’s indicated preferences on page 3 of the application.
# Multicultural Retention Services  
## 2020-2021 Returning Mentor Application

**Program(s) you are applying for:**
- ACCESS
- DSP *(only current DSP scholars are eligible)*
- EMPOWER
- GANAS
- NATIONS

**Name:**

**PSU Student ID:**

**Year in School:** *(Not class standing)*

**Email Address:**

**Phone:**

**Address:**

**City, State:**

**Zip:**

**Hometown:**

**Major(s)/Minor(s):**

**GPA:**

**Jacket Size:**

**Do you plan to live on campus for the 2020-21 academic year?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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

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**Lead Mentor Applicants ONLY:**

Please circle all days and time slots you are available, if selected, for a panel interview.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 1/20</th>
<th>10 – 11 AM</th>
<th>11 AM – 12 PM</th>
<th>1 – 2 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1/21</td>
<td>10 – 11 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 1/22</td>
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<td>Thursday, 1/23</td>
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<td>Friday, 1/24</td>
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Required Essay Questions
Please answer each of the following questions with no more than two paragraphs per response.

1. Why are you interested in returning as an MRS Mentor?
2. How have you grown in leadership from your experiences as a current or previous Mentor?
3. In what ways have you fallen short as a mentor? Is there anything you would do differently?
4. What do you hope to develop or learn (personally and professionally) by returning as a Mentor?
5. What do you hope to contribute to MRS as a Returning Mentor and how will you achieve this?
6. In your opinion, how can MRS Programs improve?

Acknowledgement
I have read and understand the MRS 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. Initial & Date: ______________________

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 3)
_______ MRS 2020 Mentor Enrichment Sessions: 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1 & 5/8
_______ MRS Overnight Mentor Retreat & Training*: Early September 2020
_______ MRS 2020 New Student Orientation*: 9/21
_______ MRS 2020 Connect Program*: 9/21-9/25

*Please note that the provided range of dates above are subject to change. All hired mentors will be notified of any changes immediately. Signing initials will still indicate that you will be present at these events regardless of change of date.

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:
Incomplete applications will not be considered eligible. Please check each of the following to indicate that you have submitted a complete mentor application.

☐ Completed and Signed Application
  Please submit pages 3 & 4 of this application packet only

☐ Resume

☐ 2 References Listed
  Note: Include full names, phone number, email, and professional position/title; References should be individuals who know your academic ability and potential for leadership. Family members are not acceptable references.

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

☐ A list of work/extracurricular activities for 2020-21 academic Year detailing the hours you will be working, volunteering, etc