

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Peer Mentor Program

*Peers * Advocates * Leaders * Student Success (PALS)*



The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) PALS Peer Mentor program will offer two opportunities for both fall and spring terms.

- In the fall the program will consist of individual meetings with incoming freshman and transfer students new to CALs. The purpose is to help students with the transition to the University of Arizona (UA) campus life and student expectations. Peer mentors will also assist with the CALs 195C course.
- In the spring semester peer mentors will meet with students on academic probation and assist with the CALs 195A course. The purpose will be to help these students on academic probation develop a plan and help them to enhance the skills necessary to become successful UA students.
- Students will build academic success skills as well as foster relationships with experienced students and staff.
- Peer Mentors will earn 2-3 units of upper division units (CALs393 or 493) for each semester.

Peer Mentors will be assigned to approximately 7-15 students in the fall semester. In spring it will be approximately 4-6 students.

- They will provide support through bi-weekly meetings with their assigned students.
- Peer mentors will also assist in facilitating group events for the students.
- They will also have the opportunity to assist with a success course.
- Professional development skills will be gained from the experiences this program offers.

Training

Attendance at two trainings is required.

- One will be held in August and the second one in January: August 20 from 9am-4pm and January 12 from 9am-4pm.
- As a student, you most likely have many responsibilities including class, homework, student organizations, family obligations, job(s), etc. We understand how important it is for you to maintain a balance between these competing priorities, and so we make every attempt to let you know up front of the time commitment required for being a peer mentor.

There will be a mandatory training prior to each term and weekly staff meetings with CALs Career and Academic Services (CAS) staff. Please understand that if you are offered a peer mentor position, your offer is contingent on your ability to attend the mandatory trainings and peer mentor meetings with CAS staff. If you suspect that you may have a conflict with training dates, please address these timing conflicts with Nancy Rodriguez-Lorta, Associate Director of Career and Academic Services * nancyr@email.arizona.edu * 520-621-3611* Saguaro Hall Room 221.

Weekly Peer Mentor Meetings with CAS staff: Meetings will be for 55 minutes on Thursdays from 8-8:55am throughout fall and spring terms.

CALs 195 Classes: Active class participation (teaching and/or assisting) in 3 class periods. Class time is 50 minutes long.

Application Components

In order for your application to be considered complete, please submit the following items by **Friday, August 7 at 4:00pm (extended deadline)** in person to Saguaro Hall Room 221.

- **2015-16 Peer Mentor Program Application Form**
- **Cover Letter:** Please include a cover letter that addresses why you are interested in being a college peer mentor, relevant work or leadership experience, and why you are uniquely qualified to serve as a leader and role model to students.
- **Current Résumé:** In your résumé, please list relevant on- and off-campus work experience as well as academic and campus involvement.

*Selected candidates will receive notifications the week of August 10, 2015.

Minimum Qualifications

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75
- Currently enrolled in a UA undergraduate program of study at least half-time. Must also be planning to enroll at least half-time for the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters.
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to relate to students from diverse backgrounds
- Basic knowledge of University of Arizona campus resources
- Commitment to student success and confidentiality
- Ability to attend mandatory weekly staff meetings
- Ability to attend two full day mandatory trainings (one for Fall and the other for Spring)

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES PEER MENTOR PROGRAM APPLICATION
Academic Year 2015-2016

General Instructions

This application packet is due by **4:00 pm on Friday, August 7, 2015 (extended deadline)** in person to the Saguaro Hall Room 221 (Front Desk) * electronically to nancyr@email.arizona.edu * or fax: 520-621-8662. Your application packet will not be considered complete unless you include this application, a cover letter, and your current résumé.

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____

Student ID: _____ UA Email Address: _____@email.arizona.edu

Local Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell Number: (_____) _____

Are you interested in earning internship units (university credits) for your participation as a peer mentor? Yes No

Are you interested in being a peer mentor for fall, spring or both terms? ___ Fall ___ Spring ___ Both terms

Have you served as a peer mentor in college or in high school? If yes, for what programs?

For returning peer mentors, are you interested in a peer mentor coordinator position? Yes No

If yes, visit Saguaro Hall 221 for peer mentor coordinator supplemental application or email Nancy Rodriguez Lorta at nancyr@email.arizona.edu Coordinators will earn 3 units of CALS 393/493.

Academic Information

College: _____ Major: _____

Minor: _____ Class Status (FR, SO, JR, SR): _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Please Note: Candidates must meet a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 to be considered for a peer mentor position.

Signature

I certify that everything I have submitted on this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understand the appropriate peer mentor description, responsibilities, and mandatory training dates and meetings. I also give permission to allow CALS Career and Academic Services staff to examine my academic record to verify the information submitted on this form. If you plan to submit it electronically type your name and date in the line below.

Signature Date

