

# TLSAMP

## Peer Mentoring

**Purpose:** The purpose of the TLSAMP Peer Mentor Program is to provide first and second year STEM mentees the opportunity to interact with outstanding continuing STEM student peer mentors while being encouraged to excel academically and as future STEM peer mentors. The intent is to help students acquire coaching, counseling, and a nurturing environment to develop their academic and social skills. It is also hoped that some Peer Mentors will be inspired to consider future careers in higher education, teaching, or administration.

**Definition of Peer Mentor:** Peer mentors serve as role models in the areas of academic achievement, personal development, and leadership in order to help first and second year students successfully adjust to and excel within the university. The Peer Mentor Program provides unique, personal support to students during their first two years of college. Peer Mentors are instrumental in creating a learning centered environment where students are challenged to succeed academically.

**Role of Peer Mentors:** Peer mentors serve as advocates for the academic and social needs, interests, and rights of freshman and sophomore mentees at the TLSAMP university. Peer mentors become actively involved in the lives of mentees by:

- Being knowledgeable of university regulations, procedures and resources.
- Assuring that mentees meet with academic advisors
- Assisting mentees with completing registration procedures.
- Being an active and understanding listener.
- Identifying academic and other registration hold issues (e.g. financial) of mentees.
- Serving as communication, feedback and resource conduits to faculty, administration and support personnel to facilitate the various on-campus needs of mentees.
- Assisting with and objectively evaluating homework and other out-of-class assignments.
- Assisting in tutorial and review sessions.
- Organizing personal development, social events and social support activities.
- Assisting students to connect with student organizations.
- Development of mentees to be eligible to become peer mentors.

**Requirements and Training of Peer Mentors:** Peer Mentors are selected through a challenging selection process that requires that they have achieved at least junior standing by the fall semester that they will serve and that they be in good academic standing with the University, with a minimum GPA of 3.0. They also must exemplify a strong interest in helping students become active, involved, and be academically successful. Upon selection, peer mentors are required to attend a one-day training workshop sponsored by TLSAMP.

**Mentee/mentor ratio (2:1 or 1:1):** Peer mentors from each respective STEM area each will be responsible for mentoring one or two first and/or second year students.

**Expectations:** Student mentors will mentor a maximum of two student mentees and a minimum of 1, per semester. Student mentors are expected to assist each mentee at least 1 hour per week.

**Dates:** The term of the peer mentoring relationship is one semester; this will include a week of training before starting a 10 week period of mentoring. Arrangements may be made if the mentor and his/her mentee would like to continue working together for the next semester.

**Financial Assistance:**

**Amount:** \$350 maximum for 2 peer mentees, or \$175 for 1 mentee, per semester.

**Hourly Rate:**

2 mentees: \$7.00

1 mentee: \$3.50

**Hours:** Peer mentors must meet and work with their mentee a minimum of 1 hour and a maximum of 5 hours each week. As students are expected to meet with each mentee at least 1 hour per week over the 12 week period, a mentor with one will student will make at least \$35 and a mentor with two mentees will make at least \$70. As the maximum mentoring time is 5 hours per week, a mentor with one mentee can make up to \$175 and a mentor with two mentees can make up to \$350. Both the mentor and the mentee must document each session or activity.