

# Reaching Excellence in Academics and Leadership Program (REAL) Peer Advisor and Summer Resident Advisor Position

The Peer Advisor and Summer Resident Advisor position for the Reaching Excellence in Academics and Leadership and Summer Academy programs is a combination of two positions that report to the Department of Residence Life and the Office of Multicultural Student Services.

## Program Background

The Reaching Excellence in Academics and Leadership and Summer Academy (REAL/SA) are two orientation programs that occur over six-weeks in the summer.

- REAL is for newly-admitted UST students of color, asylees, refugees and permanent residents.
- SA is for newly-admitted UST students of color, women, asylees, refugees and permanent residents interested in studying the fields of science, technology or engineering. SA participants must place at the pre-calculus math level.

Both programs are designed to acquaint students with campus life and resources, and to provide experience with college-level coursework.

## Responsibilities

Summer Resident Assistant	REAL/SA Peer Advisor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist in transitioning hall from academic year to summer, including check-ins and check-outs.</li> <li>• Implement Residence Life and University policies.</li> <li>• Provide coverage for office hours, rounds and on-call shifts (May through August 2009).</li> <li>• Act as a communication link between Residence Life and students when representing the needs and concerns of each group.</li> <li>• Attend all staff meetings and training sessions.</li> <li>• Complete weekly reports.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentor 30 program participants (incoming freshmen) during the 6-week summer program.</li> <li>• Attend and coordinate daily events.</li> <li>• Assist in planning and facilitation of weekly meetings.</li> <li>• Lead activities such as team building and ice breakers.</li> <li>• Serve as liaison between Program Directors and student participants.</li> <li>• Complete weekly reports.</li> </ul>

## Training and Development

- ◆ The Summer RA and Peer Advisor will attend spring and summer trainings through Residence Life and Multicultural Student Services (2009 dates to be announced).
- ◆ Staff development will occur through weekly meetings with Program Directors.

## Eligibility

- ◆ Must be returning UST student for fall semester 2009. (Students are not eligible if graduating in May 2009 or studying abroad during fall semester 2009).
- ◆ Must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or above.
- ◆ Must live on-campus May 18 through August 21, 2009; evening and weekend shifts are required.
- ◆ Must consult with supervisor regarding any outside commitments requiring 10 hours/week or more.
- ◆ Previous REAL Program or Summer Academy experience preferred.
- ◆ Superior communication skills.
- ◆ Demonstrated organizational & time management skills.
- ◆ Ability to be a team member, but also work independently.
- ◆ Experience working with diverse populations.

## Compensation

Summer Resident Assistant	REAL/SA Peer Advisor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A single room (May 18 through August 21, 2009).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hourly wage paid bi-weekly during the 6-week program. The Peer Advisor will work approximately 20 hours per week during the 6-week program.</li><li>• Meal allocation on Tommie eXpress card during 6-week program.</li></ul>

## Contact Information

For questions, please contact REAL Program Director, Tara LaFerla at 651-962-6461 or [trlaferla@stthomas.edu](mailto:trlaferla@stthomas.edu)