Student Retention Council – UPC Appointee Role

Alabama's leaders are dedicated to investing in the State's future. As we look towards the 22nd century it is more important than ever that we recruit and retain our college graduates. We believe this is critically important as we propel Alabama into the knowledge-based economy of tomorrow. We know that the strongest voice to reach students is, well students. Therefore, The Higher Education Partnership encourages you to appoint one student per university to serve as members of the Student Retention Council working to build a statewide project made for students by students. The project is designed to encourage your fellow graduates to consider Alabama as a career destination.

More info at [www.higheredpartners.org/SRC](http://www.higheredpartners.org/SRC)

Role Description

One student from each campus will be appointed by the University President or Chancellor. They will work together to design and execute a peer-to-peer public awareness campaign. The idea is to address a key issue impacting retention in the State of Alabama and develop a strategic project to help overcome the barriers. While the project will be designed on a statewide basis, each student will be responsible for executing the project on their campus and primary documentation of their work.

This program is designed to be a hands-on, experiential learning opportunity refining student skills in areas of innovation, project design and execution, communication, and leadership.

***Anticipated Time Commitment:***

Selected students must be available to attend the following MANDATORY events:

* Aug. 7-8 – Orientation @ Destin, FL IN PERSON
	+ *Hosted in Conjunction with SLUAC*
* Oct. 8 – Professional Development I – “Quality of Life” IN PERSON
* Nov. 25 – Fall “Final” via Zoom VIA ZOOM
* Jan. 30 – Professional Development II IN PERSON
* March – Community Events / Dinner IN PERSON
* April 16 - Legislative Report (Overnight Available April 15) IN PERSON

Optional (but highly recommended):

* August 5-7- STARS Leaders and University Advocates Conference, Destin, FL

Additional events will be scheduled, including community meetings and on-campus events. Retention Council members will check in with their regional director via phone or Zoom on a weekly basis and provide written examples of ongoing work.

It is anticipated that students will spend an average of 1.5 hours a week working towards the execution of their projects, with time commitments fluctuating based on execution stage.

*All in-person events are hosted free of charge to the student and university including lodging for overnight events and any meals. Students will also receive cost reimbursement for their travel based on a mileage formula.*

Applicant Criteria

Ideal student candidates demonstrate the following traits:

* Junior or Senior student
* A passion for making the world a better place
* Ability to work independently and take initiative
* Experience and ability executing a project from start to finish
* Strong leadership skills featuring a positive attitude
* Strong critical thinking and communication skills
* Strong public speaking ability
* Interest in entrepreneurship, marketing, creative campaigns, or innovation
* Good time management skills
* Strong work ethic

Student Members should expect to work together with their peers on-campus and across the state. Each SRC member will be responsible for written and project-based portions of their work.

While these students may serve in other elected or appointed roles on campus, this position will require them to make the commitment as they undertake a significant responsibility and work towards the external goals. We understand that some time commitments may require missed classes or other campus commitments, we endeavor to stagger mandatory events so the same campus commitments are not missed more than once a semester. It is our aim that in person events will provide an opportunity to learn from state leaders and experts in the field, while representing their campus’ unique point of view.

More Details

Selected students will receive a $1,000 stipend for their work throughout the year. Throughout their time in this role, students will be connected to local community and alumni mentors and given an opportunity to network with and learn from professionals across Alabama.

The Higher Education Partnership reserves the right to reduce the amount of stipend awarded as a result of unexcused absences from mandatory events or unfulfilled work expectations.