Freshman Connector Application

DESIRED SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

We are a team of students who love their Northwestern State University experience and want to share that experience with others. Students interested in the Freshman Connector position must:

- Be highly motivated and energetic individuals who excel at meeting people
- Approach work with positivity and adaptability
- Be comfortable speaking in front of groups, whether as part of a campus tour, a student panel, leading a small group discussion, or assisting with First Year Experience programs

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Interested in learning more about Freshman Connection? Attend one of the following informational meetings and let us answer your questions. All sessions will be held in Room 147 in the Student Services Center.

**Monday, October 12** – 1:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m.
**Tuesday, October 13** – 2:00 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.
**Wednesday, October 14** – 2:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Freshman Connectors assist with orientation and first year events including Freshman Connection and Demon Days.

- Welcome new students and their families to Freshman Connection and Parent Connection, facilitate check-in and registration
- Live on campus during Freshman Connection programs
- Serve as a leader to a group of incoming students
- Conduct exciting and innovative small-group activities and discussions
- Discuss university policies, registration processes, student life, and transition issues
- Conduct campus tours
- Participate in preparation, rehearsal, and presentation of all orientation programs, including the welcome assembly
FRESHMAN CONNECTOR REQUIREMENTS:

• Applicants must be full-time students during fall 2015 and spring 2016 and must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA. (3.0 High School GPA for 1st semester students)
• Participate in N-Side View programs, Demon Days, and other First Year Experience activities
• Maintain good academic and disciplinary standing with the university
• Enroll in OR 1100 - 01N for spring 2016 semester (MWF 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM)
• Actively participate in planning and implementing all aspects of work in the First Year Experience
• Attend all classes, team-building activities, and training sessions
• Participate in Spring Retreat, January 7 – 8, 2016
• Attend the Southern Regional Orientation Workshop (SROW) at East Carolina University in Greenville, NC, March 11-13, 2016
• Participate in the Leadership Retreat at Dry Creek, May 9 - 12, 2016
• Attend Freshman Connection Work Week, May 22 – 25, 2016
• Must be available for Freshman Connection sessions on the following dates: May 26 – 27, June 2-3, June 23-24, and July 12-13, 2016

COMPENSATION:

Freshman Connectors:

• $500 Scholarship
• Meals and Housing during each Freshman Connection session
• Conference related expenses (SROW and Connector's Retreats)
• Orientation Uniforms
• Summer 2016 WRAC Membership

APPLICATION PROCESS:

• Applicants must submit a completed application and one recommendation form from a NSU faculty or staff member.
• Completed applications are due Wednesday, October 21, 2015, by 4:30 p.m.
• Recommendation forms are due Wednesday, October 28, 2015 by 4:30 p.m.
• The Freshman Connection Group Interview will be held Wednesday, October 28, 6:00 p.m., in the Student Union Ballroom
• Individual Interviews will be held November 4 – 11, 2015.

Return the completed application, along with one recommendation form to Room 138 in the Student Services Center or mail it to:

Freshman Connection
NSU Box 5244
Natchitoches, LA
APPLICATION FOR FRESHMAN CONNECTOR

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

FULL NAME ___________________________________________  First  Last  M.I.

Preferred Name ___________________________________  Student ID Number __________________________

Local Address ___________________________________________

Street Address or P. O. Box

City ___________________________  State ___________________________  ZIP

Email Address ___________________________  Cell Phone Number ___________________________

Major ___________________________________________  Cumulative GPA ___________________________

Classification at the end of the Fall 2015 Semester: (Circle One): FR SO JR SR

Are you on Academic Probation?  Circle One  Yes  No

Disciplinary Probation?  Yes  No

High School: ___________________________________________

City ___________________________  State ___________________________

Year of High School Graduation: ___________________________  High School GPA: ___________________________

Select one organization or activity (College or High School) you have participated in that helped you develop your leadership skills. Briefly explain.

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________
PERSONAL STATEMENT

Freshman Connectors are required to take initiative, think on their feet, work independently AND with others, and be a self-starter. For your application, type and attach a personal statement (no longer than one page) that addresses the following questions:

1. What motivated you to apply for this position?
2. Tell us how your experience (clubs, classes, work history, volunteer experiences, etc.) have prepared you to be successful in this position.
3. Share one of the challenges you faced during your first semester at Northwestern State University. What did you learn from this experience?

I authorize the Director of First Year Experience & Leadership Development to verify my academic information and eligibility as outlined in the position description.

__________________________________________  __________________________
Signature                                      Date
FRESHMAN CONNECTION PROGRAM
RECOMMENDATION FORM
Northwestern State University

FACULTY/STAFF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant: Complete the PERSONAL DATA portion and deliver this form to the faculty/staff person of your choice. (Please print legibly or type your answers in the blanks provided).

Full Name: ___________________________________________________________

Last Name                          First Name                          M. I.

E-mail Address: ________________________________

Cell Phone Number: ________________________________

Faculty/Staff Recommendation

This summer, the Office of First Year Experience & Leadership Development will employ students to assist with the Freshman Connection sessions. The Freshman Connection Program is designed to introduce new students and their parents to the University, its academic programs, services and activities.

The Orientation Leaders (Connectors) play a vital role in facilitating the adjustments of new students to our campus and community. Because we feel it is important to select only the best applicants to represent the University, we have asked each applicant to obtain one recommendation form.

You have been asked to submit a confidential recommendation form and we would appreciate your honest assessment of the student. We are particularly interested in your opinion of the student's classroom participation, punctuality, integrity, and ability to work with others. Any additional information that you feel would help us accurately evaluate the student would be appreciated.

All recommendations must be received by Wednesday, October 28, 2015 no later than 4:30 PM. Students whose recommendation form is not received by the deadline will not be considered for this position.

Return recommendation form to the Office of First Year Experience & Leadership Development in the Student Services Center, Room 138 or mail it to:

Freshman Connection
NSU Box 5244
Natchitoches, LA 71497

Thank you for your input in this selection process. Please be assured that we will consider your recommendation form carefully and the confidentiality of its contents will be protected.
**FRESHMAN CONNECTOR RECOMMENDATION FORM**

Name of Applicant: _____________________________________________________________

Using the scale below, please rate the applicant relative to his/her peers.

5 = Very Good  
4 = Good  
3 = Needs Improvement  
2 = Poor  
N/A = Not Applicable (have not observed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive commitment to Northwestern State University</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ability to communicate effectively</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-confidence</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<td>Creativity/Expressive Ability</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<td>Motivation</td>
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<td>Dependability</td>
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<td>Maturity</td>
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<td>Adaptability</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership Potential</td>
<td>Rating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ability to work with others (including faculty, staff, and students)</td>
<td>Rating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL SCORE**

What is your working relationship with this student?

______ I recommend this applicant without reservation.
______ I recommend this applicant with little reservation.
______ I do not recommend this applicant.

Signature ___________________________________________ Date _____________________________

Title or Position______________________________________________

Please return to the Office of First Year Experience & Leadership Development no later than **Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 4:30 PM**. Recommendations received after this time will not be considered.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us evaluate this applicant.