Peer Counseling Educator Program

“As peer counselors, we are here to listen and explore feelings. Our goal is to help you develop your own solutions to problems…”

Peer Counseling Educators are undergraduate paraprofessionals carefully selected and trained to primarily provide outreach and psycho education to fellow students. They may also have the opportunity to provide peer counseling/mentorship to interested students. They are active and visible on campus, providing education and resource information on topics related to student mental health. Their training allows them to utilize supportive counseling and problem-solving techniques for students interested in meeting with a peer who are struggling with issues common to college students, such as relationships, decision making, and stress. Peers also provide referrals within the Counseling Center and to other campus resources as appropriate, and they facilitate the process of seeking professional help when needed.

Peer Counseling Educator Responsibilities:

- 20 hour summer training program (mid-August before fall semester begins)
- 1 year commitment (2 semesters)
- 8 total weekly hours, including club hours availability (Tues/Thurs 12-2pm)
- Participation in 1 hour/weekly supervision with licensed clinician

Peer Counseling Educator Requirements:

- Minimally 60 college credits completed
- Minimum GPA 3.0
- Psychology major
- Two letters of recommendation from professors, at least one from your major
- Application, including personal statement, 500-1000 words, describing why you want to be a Peer Counseling Educator and how your experiences thus far make you a good candidate for the program

Compensation:

- Peers receive a stipend of $250/semester
- Peers have the opportunity to register for 1 credit per semester in collaboration with psychology department requirements (e.g. a paper and any other agreed upon assignments) – this is not mandatory, but if you choose to register, you will need to do so as if you were registering for a class and will have to pay for the credit

Interested applicants should complete the undergraduate application and forward materials by May 1, 2015 to:

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