

2026 Learning Community Peer Mentor Position Description



First Year Experience: Transition • Connection • Integration • Development

What is a Learning Community

The Mentor program plays an active role in the University's overall retention efforts. Learning Communities (LCs) are one of the most successful high impact practices that promote student learning, student retention, and student success. At UW-Whitewater LCs are offered to first-year students to live and study with peers who share similar interests. To help foster student success, University faculty or staff members serve as Learning Community Coordinators to help build connections outside of the classroom throughout the first semester on campus. In addition, Learning Community Peer Mentors, connected to the major or interest area, assist new students with the transition to UW-Whitewater by serving as a role model and guiding students through their first semester on campus.

Benefits & Outcomes

As an LC Peer Mentor you will develop your leadership skills, professional communication, group facilitation skills, and have the opportunity to work with a diverse population of students, faculty, and staff. Gain valuable work experience for any major.

Compensation: \$10 per hour with an opportunity to earn about \$900 throughout the fall semester.

LC Peer Mentor Responsibilities:

- Serve as a positive role model and resource to all new students.
- Lead a group of new students through fall orientation, Warhawk Welcome.
- Aid with the facilitation of a New Student Seminar section. Attend class each week in the fall semester, work collaboratively with assigned New Student Seminar Instructor who will serve as the Learning Community Coordinator, provide the student perspective on various class topics, and assist with classroom discussion & activities.
- Assist new students in exploring their academic and career options connected to your Learning Community.
- Provide new students with opportunities to develop their leadership skills, by organizing activities and leading committees within the Learning Community.
- Help new students foster connections and networking opportunities with faculty and staff members in their area of interest.
- Attend and participate in 4 out of class events, organized and facilitated by your LC Coordinator.
- Develop and maintain a connection with your assigned group of new students. Contact & support students outside of New Student Seminar weekly (i.e. email, texting, social media, in person, WebEx, etc.).
- Follow-up with mentees who need additional support or connection to resources as highlighted through the Warhawk Check In Survey.
- Complete all Mentor Program training sessions in August.
- Attend all Mentor staff meetings occurring twice each month throughout the fall semester.

- Complete required paperwork by the given deadlines (recording hours, contact reports, evaluations, Navigate case notes, etc.).
- Represent UW-Whitewater and the Office of the First Year Experience in a professional manner and with a positive attitude.
- Adhere to all campus policies and state/federal laws. Failure to abide by University policies and/or state law may be cause for removal from the position. (Conduct checks will be done through the Dean of Students Office and University Housing to ensure you are in good standing, and that you are not on probation for university or residence hall violations.)
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Learning Community Coordinator, Mentor Program Manager, Graduate Assistant for Mentor Programs, or other staff members from the First Year Experience Office.

Qualifications:

- Full-time UW-W main campus student in good University conduct standing, academic standing, and cumulative Whitewater GPA of 2.8 or higher. (Grade checks will be completed each semester)
- Must have been a UW-Whitewater main campus student for at least two semesters by Fall 2026.
- Must have a connection to the theme/interest area of the Learning Community. (Major/Minor, role in student organization or participation in extracurricular activities)
- Desire to help new students transition to college and adjust to UW-Whitewater.
- Ability to serve as a positive role model and be approachable.
- Demonstrate leadership abilities including involvement in extra-curricular activities.
- Ability to balance academics with other responsibilities, involvement, and personal life.
- Possess strong communication skills, pay attention to detail, and self-motivated.
- Serve as an inclusive leader: one who is welcoming and affirming of all students.

2026 Peer Mentor Position Description Continued

2026 Required Dates:

Peer Mentors are required to attend the following trainings and meetings.

- TBD: Mentor Program Pre-Fall Online Training
- August 26-28, all day: Mentor Program Fall Training
- August 30 - September 1, all day and evening: Warhawk Welcome
- Out of Classroom Events Facilitated by LC Coordinator: You must attend 4
 - LC Welcome Event August 31, Dinner Social 1 Hour (Required)
 - End of Semester Celebration hosted by Housing in December 1 Hour(Required)
 - Learning Community Day of Service, September 18, 3 Hours (Required)
 - Additional events of your choice, 1-2 hours per event
- September-December: Fridays, 12:00-1pm | Mentor meetings: 6 meetings throughout the semester:

• September 11	• October 30
• September 25	• November 13
• October 9	• December 4
- September-December: New Student Seminar (50 minutes each week)
- October/November: Participate and assist with the implementation of Mentor sponsored events including but not limited to: Boxes & Bridges, Learning Communities Day of Service, & Homecoming activities. (details provided in training)

Selection Process:

Those interested in the Peer Mentor position can anticipate the following selection process:

1. Complete the online Peer Mentor application via the FYE website starting January 9, 2026: <http://www.uww.edu/fye/freshmen/peer-mentor>
 - o Applications due by **Monday, February 9, 2026 by 4:30pm.**
2. Have one UW-Whitewater professional reference – name & email. Your reference must be a part of the UW-Whitewater community. This can include a faculty member, professional staff member, a current supervisor for an on-campus position, your Resident Assistant or other hall staff, your Peer Mentor, someone you work with in a student organization, an advisor, etc.
3. Those who meet requirements of the position will be invited to an individual interview.
4. Offers made via email by Thursday, March 19, 2026.
5. Offers must be accepted by Thursday, April 2, 2026.

Questions? Please contact:

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