



Center for Civic Engagement

live. learn. grow.

*Application for Bonner Leader Program*

**2014-2015**



## **BONNER LEADER PROGRAM**

*College of Charleston*

Bonner Leaders are outstanding students who commit themselves to leadership through service and making positive changes across campus and in the community. This four-year service-based program pairs real-life work experiences in area nonprofit organizations with powerful leadership development training and education that helps students transition from volunteers to leaders in their community. Bonner Leaders are open-minded and willing to work with diverse groups of people. Being a Bonner Leader means working with a community of peers dedicated to making a difference.

### **Being a Bonner Leader means:**

- Having a commitment to strengthening the community through service.
- Leadership development and opportunities.
- Organizing campus and community-wide service projects and events.
- Involvement in a community of peers dedicated to making a difference.
- Participating in national service conferences and other travel.
- Being open-minded and willing to work with diverse groups of people.

### **Requirements for Bonner Leader:**

- Commitment to a service placement and weekly meetings for 300 hours each year (12-15 hours/week).
- Complete 30 credit hours per academic year.
- Maintain a 2.7 CofC GPA.

### **Financial Package:**

- There is a scholarship for all Bonner Leaders who meet the above requirements.
- Participants who complete an AmeriCorps term will receive an education award of at least \$1000. Students may complete one term per academic year.
- Bonner Leaders eligible for work study can be compensated through the work study program for their off-campus volunteering.
- Cost of most travel is covered by the program.

*The Center for Civic Engagement • 160 Calhoun Street, Lightsey Room 203 • Charleston, SC 29424  
(843) 953-5838 • <http://blogs.cofc.edu/volunteer/>*

***"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little."  
~Edmund Burke***





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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ G.P.A.: \_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Federal Work Study? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any relevant talents/skills (e.g. photography, media, language, art, etc.)?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list three social issue areas that you are passionate about:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Voluntary Demographic Data**

Colleges and universities are asked by many, including the federal government, accrediting associations, college guides, newspapers, and our own college/university communities, to describe the backgrounds of our students and employees. In order to respond to these requests, we ask you to answer the following questions. Submission of this information is entirely voluntary.

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you Hispanic/Latino?

☐ Yes

☐ No

In addition, select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself:

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

☐ White

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## **BONNER LEADER PROGRAM**

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Provide a typed **essay** addressing the following questions. Please limit responses to 1 page per question.

- Why are you interested in the Bonner Leader Program, and what do you hope to gain from the program?
- What is one social, political, or economic issue that is important to you and why?
- What does diversity mean to you? What will you bring to a diverse group? What do you hope to gain from a diverse group?
- Do you feel like you have “found your place” here on the College of Charleston campus? Why or why not?
- What is your idea of “community”? Can service ever be selfless? Why or why not?
- Would you rather be a hammer or a nail? Why?
- How do you plan to incorporate Bonner Leader into your schedule?

**Please attach the following additional information to the application:**

- A list of service, school, church, athletic, family, or work responsibilities to which you were most committed during your **last two years of high school**. Specify the activities, positions held and length/frequency of commitments.
- A list of service, school, church, athletic, family, or work responsibilities to which you have been most committed **during your time at the College of Charleston**. Specify the activities, positions held and length/frequency of commitments.
- Two letters of recommendation which detail why you would be successful as a Bonner Leader and/or what you would most uniquely bring to the program. Please do not have friends or family provide these. Letters of recommendation should be mailed or emailed directly from the letter writer.

Questions: Contact Laura Mewbourn  
843.953.5838 or mewbournle@cofc.edu

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE  
BONNER LEADER PROGRAM!**

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