



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/> • bonner@cofc.edu*

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

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Name: _____

Home Address: _____

High School Attended: _____ UNWEIGHTED GPA (0.0-4.0 scale): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Major (if decided): _____

Does your financial aid package for the College of Charleston show that you are eligible for Federal Work Study? (*Please log onto your MyCharleston account and go to your Financial Aid tab. See if "Federal Work Study" is listed*)

If yes, what is the amount listed? _____

What is your EFC? (if you don't know, leave this blank) _____

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: _____

Do you consider yourself to be 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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Provide a typed **essay** addressing the following questions. Please limit responses to a single-spaced, half 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 motivates you to keep a positive attitude and accomplish your goals?
- What does diversity mean to you? What will you bring to a diverse group? What do you hope to gain from a diverse group?
- 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?
- Is there anything else you would like the selection committee to know about you that you feel is not adequately reflected in your previous answers?

Please attach the following additional information to the application:

- A list of service, school, church, athletic, family, or work responsibilities to which you have been most committed (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.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday, April 25, by 3pm

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAY 16TH IF YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR AN INTERVIEW.

YOUR INTERVIEW WILL BE SCHEDULED TO OCCUR

DURING YOUR ORIENTATION OR VIA SKYPE.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions!

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