

2019-20 Bearcat Mentor Application

Deadline: Friday, May 3rd by 3:30pm

We are looking for upper-class students (current junior and sophomores) to be mentors for our freshman mentoring program. The program will essentially be designed and run by you, the mentors. We are, therefore, looking for outgoing and caring students who like to help other people and who wish to make Ruston High School a better place. Being a mentor will be hard work, but you will undoubtedly find it both a fun and a rewarding experience. Mentors will be selected by a group of faculty advisors. Factors considered include involvement at RHS, grades, discipline, and essay responses; we are looking for positive role models for our freshman students.

Roles in the Program

A Bearcat Mentor will mentor 4-5 freshman students next year.

A Bearcat Mentoring Council Member will help plan and run the mentoring program; most duties are at the beginning of the school year.

A Bearcat Mentor Alternate is chosen for the program but has no freshman students to mentor initially; spots usually open up.

Instructions for Applying

The application link for Bearcat Mentors is available on the RHS website home page under *Latest Announcements* and also on the Bearcat Mentors organizational page. Please visit:

<https://rustonhigh.lincolnschools.org>

The 2019-20 Bearcat Mentoring Program Application has three parts. Students who wish to be considered for the program must complete **ALL PARTS** of the application.

All applications must be submitted online by Friday, May 3rd by 3:30pm. Incomplete applications will be invalid. No late applications will be taken.

Questions?? Please see Mrs. Thomason in Room 306 if you have questions or need computer assistance.

Part 1: Personal information

Part 2: School and student information

Part 3: Essay

The **essay questions** that you should be prepared to respond to are listed below in case you want to consider your responses prior to submission.

- 1) Please tell us about your experience as a freshman with your Bearcat Mentor, positive and negative. (5-8 sentence response required)
- 2) Why do you want to be a Bearcat Mentor (or a Bearcat Mentor Council Member)? How do you plan to help freshmen? (5-8 sentence response required)

Required Events

The events detailed below are **REQUIRED** in order to participate in the Bearcat Mentoring Program. Please make plans **NOW** to attend these events.

Wed, Aug 14, 2019 Bearcat Mentor Training Day
We will prepare for Bearcat Orientation Day, set-up, and rehearse activities.
****We will communicate the location and time of this training to you this summer through mail and email during the month of July. Info will also be available at RHS Prep Week in August.***

Thurs, Aug 15, 2019 Bearcat Orientation Day (first ½ day of school for freshmen)

Periodic/Monthly Bearcat Mentor/Mentee meetings during Monday Advisory (August—November)

Important Info

Fees: All mentors chosen will be asked to pay a program fee. **Your dues must be paid by May 21, 2019.**

- Returning Bearcat Mentors: \$5
- NEW Bearcat Mentors: \$15 (this fee includes your mentor t-shirt)

Fundraisers: Mentors may be asked to help with one fundraising event in the fall.

Duration of responsibilities: Although we encourage you to keep in touch and to continue to check on your freshmen mentees throughout the entire school year, our program this year will begin in August and end in November. You will not have formal responsibilities as a mentor after November.

Application Notes

Completed applications must be submitted online by Friday, May 3rd by the end of the school day, 3:30pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

Acceptance as a mentor last year does not ensure acceptance for the upcoming year. All students who are interested in participating must fill out a NEW application, even those who served as mentors in 11th grade.

If you were not chosen as a mentor last year, please consider re-applying for this year.

Letters notifying students of acceptance status will be distributed no later than Monday, May 13th. An announcement will be made when letters are available.

Selected students will be expected to:

- Pay the organizational fee by May 21st.
- Attend the training day on Wednesday, August 14th.
- Participate in Bearcat Orientation on Thursday, August 15th.