

Towson University New Student and Family Programs Orientation Leader Application FAQs

Who are Orientation Leaders?

OLs are the students who drive the orientation process for almost 5,000 students and over 3,000 family members each summer. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- *Represent and model all the positive qualities of a TU student*
- *Assist in the welcoming and transitioning of our incoming students to Towson University*
- *Lead sessions on particular topics important to new TU students*
- *Serve as a positive resource for students and family members who may have questions*
- *Familiarize new students with campus services and building locations*
- *Foster an environment that helps new students develop an identity as TU community members*
- *Encourage student involvement as members of the TU campus community*

What are the available positions?

New Student and Family Programs will be accepting applications for *Orientation Leaders*. Any student can apply to be an OL, including past members of the Freshman Transition Program (FTP) and students who transferred to Towson University from a 2-year or 4-year school.

New Student and Family Programs strongly encourages student leaders who have experience working with transfer students, U.S. Veterans, students with mental and/or physical disabilities, first generation college students and those who are fluent in a foreign language (Spanish preferred) to apply.

Why should I apply to be an Orientation Leader with New Student and Family Programs?

If you are selected as an OL, you will receive the following benefits in addition to getting paid:

- *Increased leadership and communication skills*
- *Opportunity to lead training seminars for your peers*
- *Interaction with a wide variety of faculty, staff, and other important TU people*
- *Ability to welcome new students to a supportive and thriving campus environment*
- *A chance to use your skills and make NSFP programming much better!*

What is the time commitment of an Orientation Leader?

New Student and Family Programs is still finalizing the schedule for Summer 2023, but estimates an average of 30 hours/week in June and July. Sessions will primarily be held in person, with select dates requiring Orientation Leaders to run virtual sessions. Mandatory training sessions will be scheduled for Spring 2023, in addition to a more intensive training session in early June 2023. These training sessions are paid.

What are the pay and requirements of serving as an Orientation Leader?

Orientation Leaders must meet the following requirements:

- *Be willing to engage with different constituencies depending on the program, including families, campus staff, faculty, academic advisers, and other student staff in person, virtually, or both*
- *Must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA by the end of the Spring 2023 semester and be in good standing with the Office of Student Conduct and Civility Education*
- *Must be a full-time enrolled undergraduate student at Towson University during the Spring 2023 and Fall 2023 semesters*
- *Must live in a Towson University residence hall (on-campus housing provided for free for OLs) or live in the Towson area during Summer 2023*

- *OLs who want to take summer courses must take online/distance learning where they do not have to be in a classroom and have pre-approval from the Office of New Student and Family Programs*
- *Orientation Leaders meeting those requirements earn a wage of \$15.00/hour*

Can I study abroad while being an OL?

Because you are required to be on campus to perform OL duties, students can not study abroad and be an OL in the same Summer.

Can I work another job during the Summer that I am an OL?

So long as students are aware of the hourly requirements of the Orientation Leader position, they are permitted to have another job that does not conflict with the OL duties. Please note, however, that students with one or more on-campus jobs are not permitted to work over a combined 40 hours a week for the University.

I'm a little introverted. Am I still suited to becoming an OL?

Of course! We want our incoming students to be able to relate to our Orientation Leaders, so we seek to represent students of all personalities, interests, backgrounds and academic majors in our staff. There is a place for everyone in the Orientation team, including those who may be a little introverted.

I need to miss an Orientation date over the Summer. Can I still apply to be an OL?

OLs are expected to participate in all Orientation sessions and trainings. However, our office understands that some conflicts cannot be helped. Those who know that they must miss an Orientation date are still encouraged to apply. Conflicts should be discussed prior to hiring.

I graduate this May. Can I apply?

Unfortunately, this position is only available to current Towson students. Because graduating Seniors will no longer be enrolled as Towson students by the start of the Summer, they do not qualify to be Orientation Leaders.

I can't find my GPA. Can I still apply?

Yes! We will verify whether or not you meet the GPA requirement as a part of our applicant review process, and we encourage you to apply even if you are unsure of whether or not you meet the requirement.

Sounds good! How can I apply to be an Orientation Leader?

Applying is very easy! Visit [TU Handshake](#) to apply. Make sure you click on "Apply Externally" to be taken to the [job application](#) form from there.

The application asks for my top 5 strengths. What if I haven't completed a Clifton Strengths survey yet?

No worries! Before you submit your application, go to <http://towson.gallup.com> and take the Clifton Strengths survey. It takes between 30-45 minutes to complete. Once you have your top 5 strengths, complete the application.

When are applications due?

Applications must be submitted via Handshake by Feb. 10.

So, once I apply, what are the next steps?

Once you submit your application, the next step is the interview. Candidates who qualify will be invited to complete an individual and group interview.