



## LEARNING COMMUNITIES

### Learning Community Floor Mentor

*Learning Communities provide cohorts of students with opportunities to investigate areas of interest, either based on their major or an interdisciplinary topic, through guided courses and co-curricular activities. Learning Communities develop knowledgeable, responsible, engaged citizens in a culture of inquiry within a learner-centered university. While assisting students with their transition to academic life, they offer a small college feel and a sense of place on a large campus; they promote meaningful and sustained interactions with faculty, staff, and student leaders; and they provide an effective structure for curricular coherence, deeper learning, student success, persistence, and engagement. More than 44 percent of the incoming class participates in a learning community, as well as hundreds of students beyond the first year.*

#### Floor Mentor Position Description

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The Learning Community Floor Mentor will assist in **fulfilling the mission of the Learning Community Program as well as ensuring the success and supporting the initiatives of their respective communities**. Mentors will be a **resource** to Learning Community students, provide advice and **support** during their transition to UConn, and be a positive **role model**. Floor Mentors will work in **collaboration** with all members of the LC Leadership Team including: directors; support team - instructors, staff, graduate assistants, and hall directors; and other student leaders - Resident Assistants, FYE Mentors, and other Floor Mentors.

Floor Mentors must remain in good academic and community standing for the duration of their appointment. In addition, Floor Mentors will represent the Learning Community program in the larger University community, uphold the UConn Student Code of Conduct, the On-Campus Housing Contract, and all University policies.

#### Responsibilities:

- **Training and Leadership Development:** Complete all required enrichment for the Floor Mentor role.
  - Be enrolled, attend and participate in a three-credit fall EPSY Peer Education course, which will meet once a week for two hours and require active engagement with content throughout the fall semester. This will include access and connection to a small group of inter-LC Floor Mentors through their Think Tank, facilitated and led by a Teaching Assistant, who will be a past Floor Mentor.
  - Attend the entire First Year Programs & Learning Communities August Student Peer Leader Training which will occur the week before classes begin (most likely August 23-26, 2022).
  - Attend any other required trainings, meetings, and workshops throughout the year.
  - Participate in a self-evaluation process both mid-year and at the end of the academic year.
- **Community Presence:** Commit to living on the floor of your Learning Community for the full academic year. Be available and approachable for all students and respond promptly to their needs.
  - Respond to emails, text messages, social media, or other agreed upon modes of communication within 24-hours (excluding emergencies or other time sensitive matters that require immediate attention).
  - Collaborate and utilize individual strengths to develop an inclusive community that is supportive and accepting of all individuals.

- Be willing to speak up and work with your LC team to address any issues that arise which can harm an individual and/or the community in a timely manner.
- If comfortable and appropriate, regularly utilize social media to connect with LC members and capture LC happenings.
- **Active Mentoring and Referring:** Complete and log at least 25 hours of mentoring per semester. It is expected each Floor Mentor completes a minimum of 2 hours of mentoring per week, per semester.
  - Maintain confidentiality when appropriate, for example, not sharing private conversations that occur in LC Team meetings with students, not sharing personal stories students share with other students; and be willing to share information with LC director or other UConn offices when necessary and/or required.
  - Be proactive in connecting and referring students to resources and opportunities across campus; stay informed and updated about UConn activities which could be integrated into the LC student experience.
  - Support the Resident Assistant(s) in their role, including but not limited to: referring students to Resident Assistant(s) for residential, health, safety, and student conduct issues that pertain to individual students or to the community as a whole.
- **Collaboration:** Be an active example of a model Learning Community member.
  - Plan and implement both formal and informal community events and activities in collaboration with other student leaders and your LC Team.
  - Attend Learning Community events, both those offered by the LC Program and individual Learning Communities, and be a visible team member and active leader in the community throughout the year.
  - Attend all individual Learning Community Leadership Team meetings with the Faculty Director and LC Leadership Team.
  - Work to encourage inter-Learning Community interactions through formal and informal means, maximizing the Floor Mentor class as a space to brainstorm and build relationships.

**Qualifications:** Floor Mentors must...

- Have been a member of a Learning Community for at least one year,
- Be accepted to return to live in the Learning Community for the next academic year,
- Be a full-time undergraduate student in good academic and community standing with the University,
- Be dedicated to the Learning Community Program with demonstrated past involvement,
- Have an ability to work effectively as a member of the Learning Community Leadership team,
- Be a strong communicator with excellent organizational skills,
- Be invested in the academic, social, and personal success of all Learning Community students, and
- Demonstrate a high level of maturity, professionalism, critical thinking skills, kindness towards all others, and sound decision making.

*Floor Mentors who meet these expectations may be nominated and considered for Floor Mentor Awards at the end of the academic year.*

*If the requirements, duties, and obligations of this position are not sufficiently met, the Learning Community Program and/or LC Director has the right to end the term of the Floor Mentor role at any time.*