



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) SHEET

LEADS stands for Leadership for Engagement in Activism and Direct Service, a 2-week summer leadership experience for Oberlin College students who are currently serving as leaders in community service / civic engagement.

When is it?

The program begins Sunday August 16, 2009, with dinner at 5:30 p.m. and ends the evening of Saturday August 27, 2009, after the pizza reflection following the Day of Service.¹ There will be reunion / continuing professional development meetings throughout the 2009–10 academic year.

What do we do?

LEADS is a way to ensure that our student leaders are confident knowing their resources on campus, their community partner organization, and the overall ecosocial context of Lorain County. You'll learn, serve, build community and have fun!

Much of your time will be spent working with the community partners and staff of the program in which you are going to be a leader. You will develop a set of goals for the year, which you will present to a group of your peers, college staff, and community partners. Some time will also be spent in workshops on topics of leadership skills, such as grant seeking and working with community partners.

More specifics about the schedule:

First week: six full days, one of which will include a guided tour of Lorain County's historical, cultural, and industrial sites with the purpose of learning about the eco-social context of this place. Typically the mornings will be workshops and afternoons time to meet / plan with community partners. There will be a few evening events, then a half day of service at a local non-profit agency on Saturday, and a day off Sunday.

Second week: five days total, including greeting first year students and parents for half of one day. The LEADS Presentations (of your plans for the year) will be on Thursday, August 25, then there will be a half day on Friday, and a full day Saturday serving as a site leader for the Day of Service.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be chunks of free time throughout the 2-week experience to allow for errands, preparation for the coming semester, and personal time. You will also have the option of attending the fabulous Lorain County Fair free of charge!

What do I get out of it?

In addition to an amazing educational experience, participants in LEADS will have board provided throughout the program and receive a small stipend. (Also, IF your room is an on-campus college room, you also get to move into early; meals are prepared and eaten at the Bonner CSL). You will also get a head start in settling in to Oberlin for the semester, a chance to work in-depth with community partners, leadership training, a glimpse into civic engagement as a career, and the chance to be part of an amazing network of community-minded students and adults.

Who else is coming?

Student leaders are being invited from many different community service and civic engagement programs across campus, with the goal of building functional site-based teams to assist our community partner organizations and better meet needs in the local area and NE Ohio.

This sounds nifty -- How do I apply for LEADS????

Simply fill out the application form and return it to the Bonner CSL by April 21, 2009.

When will I hear whether or not I'm accepted into LEADS?

We will let students know by Monday, May 4, 2009, and will ask you to do a small amount of reading and reflection over the summer to prepare for an excellent LEADS experience...

¹ We prefer that students participate full-time, but part-time slots may be available in special circumstances.



APPLICATION

APPLICATION DUE DATE:

TUESDAY, April 21, 2009 (email to bcsl@oberlin.edu, fax to (440) 775-8754, or mail / deliver to 68 South Professor Street, Oberlin, OH 44074)

Name _____ Year in School _____

OCMR _____ Major _____

E-mail Address _____ Cell Phone _____

T-shirt size: (unisex sizing) XS S M L XL XXL XXXL

T-number (needed to move in to your residence hall early): _____

Dietary preferences / food allergies? _____
(ex: vegetarian, vegan, meat-eater, omnivore, kosher, celiac, etc.)

Summer E-mail Address or phone (if different) _____

Summer Address _____

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper

1. Please list your Primary Community Partner organization, your direct supervisor (pls. include their contact information) and what your role will be in the 2009-2010 academic year:
2. Please list all campus organizations you are a member of and any leadership roles you have/have had, all community service that you have done/are currently doing, and any community-based learning / community-based research courses or other relevant coursework you have taken/are taking.
3. In 250 words or less, please describe why you are interested in LEADS and how you plan to use the skills you acquire in your future service and academic endeavors.
4. Please provide the name and contact information (i.e., telephone, email, etc.) for two references, preferably professors, employers or community partners, who could speak to your leadership abilities and potential.