

PEER LEADER DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES 2025-2026

The responsibilities of a Peer Leader are to promote the mission and goals of the Living Learning Community and to provide mentorship and guidance to students on their floor(s) and throughout the United College community. The key to being an effective Peer Leader is to be available to your students and foster genuine relationships.

United College has several LLCs:

- Human Rights & Law LLC (HRL LLC)
- Faculty of Environment LLC (ENV LLC)
- Women in Engineering LLC (WiE LLC)

The ENV LLC provides transitional support for all first-year students entering the Faculty of Environment. Students living at United College are placed in small clusters throughout the residence, assigned an upper-year Peer Leader to provide mentorship and social support, and encouraged to attend various socially and academically oriented activities planned for students in the LLC. Students living out of United College are invited to participate in regular events created in collaboration with the Faculty of Environment and can connect with a Peer Leader through regular office hours and study halls.

Program Goals and Student Outcomes

The ENV LLC will be available to all Environment students with an extended focus on students living at United College. The College can accommodate up to 160 students in the ENV LLC.

The desired goals of the program are to:

- Increase peer-to-peer connections.
- Support a smooth academic and campus transition.
- Foster a sense of belonging within Environment and the College.

Participating students will:

- 1) Build relationships and networks that will assist them academically and personally as they transition to university life and academic expectations.
- 2) Engage with peer mentorship and intentional peer relationship building.
- 3) Participate in educational activities focused on common first year student transition and adjustment issues.
- 4) Cultivate a sense of belonging within Environment and the College.

Participating students will exit the program with the following attributes:

confident



- Ability to succeed in the academic rigor of university
- Increased resilience and ability to overcome obstacles

capable



- Academically proactive and sustainably independent
- Ability to find academic information, support, and services

comfortable



- Sense of support in the faculty community
- Sense of belonging amongst student community

Expectations and Requirements

- The Peer Leader is a live-in role.
- Attend Peer Leader Training (TBD)
- Participate in United College Move In Day (Saturday, August 30) and all Open House Days (TBD)
- Host regular Study Halls (all term) and start of term Office Hours (first 6 weeks of the Fall Term), available to all Faculty of Environment first-year students.
- Support the implementation of faculty wide LLC events by providing planning input, promoting and attending events, and facilitate follow up reflection discussions with students in their cluster.
- Meet with students individually at least twice per term to discuss term challenges and available resources.
- Connect weekly with the students in their cluster formally (events, activities, emails and messages) and informally (meal times, other community events). Typically, a cluster will be between 20 - 30 students.

- Host 4-6 cluster events or activities each term for the students in their cluster.
- Work with other Peer Leaders to create Community Wide events for all students in their LLC.
- Attend and contribute to regular team meetings and individual meetings with the LLC Coordinator.

Qualifications

- Must maintain a minimum average (in both semester and cumulative) of 75%
- Must be registered in full time course load or on a co-op work term at the University of Waterloo beyond 1B term.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to be a positive and approachable role model.

Compensation

Peer Leaders will be compensated at \$17.20/hour, or the equivalent amount of Ontario’s minimum wage, up to a maximum of \$930 per term and are expected to submit hours to the Living Learning Coordinator, or equivalent.

Peer Leaders receive a 15% discount on the double room rate (averaged across terms applied to the room portion of the residence fee) as compensation. All compensation is a taxable benefit. **The value of the room must be included as income for any OSAP application.**

	Taxable Amount*
Double Room	\$1,180

* Based on 2024-2025 amounts. 2025-2026 amounts will be confirmed by the Board of Governors in April 2025.