

Frequently Asked Questions for Resident Advisor Selection

What happens after the application is submitted?

Once the committee has performed grade verification, conduct checks, and reviewed each application, invitations to sign up for an interview will be e-mailed to your Cal Poly Humboldt account. Anyone who has submitted a completed application will receive an email informing them if they have been moved forward in the process.

Where can I upload my résumé?

We do not require the submission of a résumé. If you are offered an interview, you may bring a copy with you at that time if you would like to share it.

Do I have to submit references?

No, but if you believe that it would help your chances of being considered, we have a Recommendation Form that you can share with potential references. This can be a current RA, faculty member, advisor, or supervisor. THEY DO NOT NEED TO PROVIDE A LETTER. Because our RLC's are on the Selection Team, please do not request a reference from your Residence Life Coordinator. Share the [RECOMMENDATION FORM](#) link with your references in a timely manner. Forms must be submitted by the application deadline.

What if my references don't provide the form on-time?

Since references are not a requirement, this will not impact your application process.

What if I can't make any of the interview times?

Please contact the Student Leader Selection Committee reslife@humboldt.edu and an alternate plan will be arranged depending on the number of students with class conflicts. Only class schedules are considered conflicts with the Student Leader Interview process.

Do experienced / returning RAs need to sign-up for the interview process?

YES! More information will be provided to returning RA applicants by their RLC.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Is the RA position worth it?

There are two different sides to this question. If you are willing to work hard, have great organizational and time management skills, want to learn about yourself and others on staff, and challenge yourself with new experiences, then it is most certainly worth it. If you only want the RA job for the pay, room, and board; then it may not be worth the time and emotional effort that you need to put forth. Like anything, you get out of it what you put into it. If you put 100% of yourself into this job it will benefit you in ways that you may not even recognize for years to come. Being an RA is not just a job, but a life experience.

Do I have to stay in my area/building all the time?

No, but you do have to spend an ample amount of time in your area to build relationships with your residents and be able to address individual needs. The only time you are required to be in your area is when you have an 'on call' shift. These shifts happen once every week or every two weeks depending on the size of the staff you work with.

Do I have to stay up all night while on call?

No. You are required to respond to any situation when you receive a call and calls can range from noise complaints to guest violations, to helping the RLC deal with an emergency or resident in crisis. We expect you to get some sleep though. 😊

What are the physical requirements of the RA position?

Moderate physical effort including the ability to respond quickly to fire alarms or resident emergencies, walking up and down hills, multiple staircases, and carrying various programming, duty, or emergency supplies. These tasks may need to be accomplished during inclement weather, power outages, and/or elevator malfunctions.

Can I have another job?

While we allow up to 10 hours of outside activities; this is up to your direct supervisor who considers: grades, time management skills, and of course how much time this other job will take up. Bottom line - the RA job will always come before another job.

Can I apply to be a Resident Advisor in a specific area?

You can request to work in a specific area on campus but ultimately it is up to the selection committee to decide where you would fit best. We base our decisions on your interview, experience, and team fit.

I currently live on campus and would like to live on campus again even if I do not get the RA position, should I apply for housing?

Yes. If we do not select you to be an RA and you wish to still live on campus next year you should apply for housing in the Spring along with all the other students. If we hire you as an RA, we will assign you to your area, if you have already selected a room, we will release that space.

Do I get my own room?

Yes, although you will be required to share a bathroom and a kitchen with suitemates (if applicable). You even have the option of requesting suitemates for RA's assigned to the suites or apartment areas.

Will my financial aid be affected if I become an RA?

If you are a Financial Aid recipient, your Cost of Attendance will be adjusted by the overall cost of room and board and may impact your award. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more information at (707) 826-4321 or by email finaid@humboldt.edu

Will I be trained for the RA job?

Yes! Fall training will occur during the month of August. We also have regular in-service training that occurs bi-weekly throughout the year.

Can I miss training or in-services for other campus or personal activities?

No. The only exception is class. We have all the dates laid out far enough in advance which should allow you to plan accordingly. Some exceptions may be made for extenuating or academic-related reasons, but you must communicate those needs as far in advance as possible.

I have had conduct issues before, in housing or with the university, can I still apply?

Applicants should be in good disciplinary standing with the school. Applicants with minor infractions can still be considered for positions. Those with more serious violations will have their conduct history reviewed by the Student Leader Selection Committee.

I have never lived on campus, am I still eligible?

Candidates should have at least one semester of on-campus living. If you haven't lived on campus, we will consider your knowledge of the position and commitment to the job when reviewing your application and conducting your interview.

[Check out this article for more information about what it's like to be an RA!](#)