

GEAR UP Student Leadership Academy (GUSLA)

Ambassador Application Materials



Steps to Apply – check off each step of the application process as you complete it:

- ☐ Read Overview and Instructions carefully
- ☐ Obtain Coordinator Signature on Eligibility Verification Form
- ☐ Ask Teacher to Complete Recommendation Form and return to GEAR UP Coordinator by deadline
- ☐ Complete Ambassador Application, including Essay and obtaining parent signatures
- ☐ Submit all to GEAR UP Coordinator by deadline

GUSLA Ambassador Student Program

We hope you enjoyed your GUSLA experience in June 2014. As a prior GUSLA participant, you may have the opportunity to apply to attend again, in June 2015, as a Student Ambassador. This packet contains the information you need to determine whether you are eligible to apply, to help you decide if you want to apply, as well as the application itself. Read the overview below, including the expectations for GUSLA Ambassadors, and if you are interested, complete and submit the application and accompanying materials to your GEAR UP Coordinator by the deadline noted on the cover letter.

Overview and Objectives

The GUSLA Ambassador Student Program is intended to:

- Build leadership skills in select GEAR UP students who previously participated in the GEAR UP Summer Leadership Academy (GUSLA)
- Foster self-confidence
- Encourage community service and leadership in serving others
- Promote peers' awareness of and participation in GEAR UP generally, and GUSLA specifically
- Fuel an inclusive, supportive, high-expectations community at GEAR UP schools

Ambassador Eligibility

Students who meet the following requirements are eligible to apply to serve as GUSLA Ambassadors:

- ☐ Attended GUSLA previously
- ☐ Active participation in GEAR UP activities
- ☐ G.P.A of 2.5 or higher
- ☐ Dedicated to pursuing postsecondary education

Ambassador Expectations and Responsibilities

If selected, Ambassadors must fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Before June 1 –
 - Complete required health and safety forms for attendance at GUSLA on the NAU Mountain Campus (including obtaining parent signatures).
- At GUSLA –
 - Actively participate in Ambassador Classes.
 - Under the direction of GUSLA staff, serve as a role model and leader during experiential learning activities (including, evening activities, service learning, ropes course and RA Evening Chats).
 - Abide by all GUSLA rules.
- After GUSLA –
 - Under the direction of the GEAR UP Coordinator, throughout the 2015-16 school year, serve as a role model and leader to promote peers' awareness of and participation in GEAR UP activities, including GUSLA.
 - Assist the GEAR UP Coordinator in writing an article for the Fall edition of the GEAR UP newsletter.

Application Overview in 4 Easy Steps!

1. Meet with your GEAR UP Coordinator to confirm eligibility, get Eligibility Verification form signed.
2. Ask a teacher to complete the recommendation form and submit directly to the GEAR UP Coordinator on your behalf.
3. Complete the GUSLA Ambassador application, including an essay and obtaining parent signature.
4. Submit your completed application and essay to your GEAR UP Coordinator by the deadline noted in the Cover Letter accompanying this packet.

Notification of Selection

Applicants will be notified of whether or not they have been selected by May 15, 2015.



Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs
Northern Arizona University – North Valley Campus • 15451 N. 28th Ave, Suite 216, Phoenix, AZ 85053
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GUSLA Student Ambassador Application

Contact Information

Please print. Do not use initials or abbreviations.

Last Name: _____ First name: _____ Gender _____
School: _____

In no more than three (3) sentences, explain why you are interested in being a GUSLA Ambassador.

Attach an essay, no more than two pages, double-spaced, typed in 10 or 12 pt Times New Roman font addressing one of the following topics:

1. Describe your hopes and goals for your future and how you plan to achieve them.
2. Describe a challenge you have faced, how you overcame it, and what you learned from it.
3. Describe an experience you have had helping others, what led you to do it, and its impact on you.

Applicant's Certification

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for the GUSLA Ambassador Student Program. If I am selected as a GUSLA Student Ambassador, I agree:

1. To fulfill the ambassadorial expectations and responsibilities outlined in the application materials.
2. To abide by all rules and regulations of GUSLA as described in the GUSLA Student & Parent Handbook.

Name of Applicant _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____



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GUSLA Ambassador Eligibility Verification Form

SECTION I - To be completed by the applicant (please print)

Name of Applicant _____

School _____

The student named above would like to apply to serve as GUSLA Ambassador. In order to do so, s/he must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- ☐ The student has attended GUSLA previously
- ☐ Active participation in GEAR UP activities
- ☐ The student has a G.P.A of 2.5 or higher
- ☐ The student has demonstrated a commitment to pursuing postsecondary education

SECTION II - To be completed by the GEAR UP Coordinator (please print)

The above student meets the eligibility requirements and I agree and support the student in applying for the GUSLA Ambassador Student Program.

GEAR UP Coordinator Name _____

GEAR UP Coordinator Signature _____



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Teacher Recommendation Form

Instructions: The student named below is applying for the GEAR UP Student Leadership Academy Ambassador Program which is intended to build students' leadership skills, foster self-confidence and encourage community service and servant leadership. Ambassadors will be expected to promote their peers' awareness of and participation in GEAR UP and help fuel an inclusive, supportive, high-expectations community at their schools. Selection is highly competitive. The information you provide on this form will help immensely in the selection process. Please complete Section 2 of this form and return in a sealed envelope to the GEAR UP Coordinator at your school.

SECTION I - To be completed by the applicant (please print)

Name of Applicant _____

SECTION II - To be completed by an academic instructor or counselor (please print)

Teacher/Reference Name _____ Title/Position School _____

How would you rate the applicant in the following areas?

Leadership	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Initiative	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Enthusiasm	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Adaptability	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Maturity	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Emotional stability	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Public speaking	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate
Community service	<input type="radio"/> excellent	<input type="radio"/> very good	<input type="radio"/> average	<input type="radio"/> below average	<input type="radio"/> n/a unable to rate

Please provide a specific example of how the applicant has demonstrated at least one of the qualities listed above:

Please provide any additional comments that you believe would help in the selection process:

Signature _____

Please return the completed Recommendation Form to the GEAR UP Coordinator at your school no later than April 24, 2015.

