

## Peer Chaplain Program – Graduate Position

The Peer Chaplaincy program is a joint initiative between the Office of the Chaplain & Religious Life and RLSH. We are seeking Perkins seminary students and undergraduate students to be 2021-2022 peer chaplains. This program is aligned with the Student Affairs Learning Domain of Holistic Wellness as its goal is to integrate healthy practices within every aspect of student life in the Commons through the focus of spiritual life.

### Position Description

- The Student is expected to hold a total 150 hours per semester within the Commons. The peer chaplain will provide a listening presence to fellow students struggling with academic pressure, relationships, homesickness or other stresses. The successful candidate will also offer ministry guidance to the undergraduate peer chaplains and collaborate to hold 1 program per month with their assigned Commons for spiritual wellness.
- It is expected that the student will working collaboratively with Residential Commons staff in the planning and execution of programs.
- The main aims are to cultivate a mutual sense of well-being, to help reduce feelings of alienation, to offer empathy to anyone in need, and to explore issues of faith.
- The Student will meet *twice a month* with other peer chaplains and the Assistant Chaplain for reflection and vocational discernment.

### Minimum Qualifications

- Good academic standing with the university
- Perkins seminary student
- Interested in college ministry
- Student of outstanding character interested in exploring the intersection between faith and living environments

### Requirements

- Completed application on Connect.smu.edu; upload resume
- Letter of recommendation from a spiritual mentor (i.e. pastor, rabbi, priest, professor, small group leader)
- Interview with staff members of the OCRL & RLSH

### Mentorship Activities and Responsibilities

- Training and Move-in: Attend Peer Chaplaincy training in the summer with the Chaplain's Office; Attend relevant RLSH training during the summer; help with undergraduate Move-in
- Meetings: Attend Monthly meetings with RLSH staff; Meet bi-weekly with undergraduate Peer Chaplains; Meet monthly with OCRL staff member
- Integrate in the Commons: Attend Commons events; Plan 1 program per month with undergraduate peer chaplains; meet with students in the assigned Commons
- Keep a log/report of chaplain/student interactions
- Write a 3-page theological reflection of your experience to be due each semester

### Stipend

- The successful Graduate Peer Chaplain will receive a \$2,500 stipend per semester.