SMU Outdoor Adventures (OA) is one of the Best Leadership Development Programs on Campus! We change lives and positively impact others. SMU OA transcends recreation and focuses on preparing future leaders for life after SMU. Whether designing and delivering outdoor recreational trips and workshops, mentoring and instructing peers, or working shifts at the Rental Shop and Climbing Wall, the SMU OA Leader is positively impacting the lives of others. We get to do this using fun, exciting and challenging activities like rock climbing, backpacking, canoeing, caving and more. And did we mention it's paid?

Outdoor experience is not the most important qualification; what is important is true motivation, a passion for the outdoors and the desire to teach others. Training and development opportunities are made available. Leadership opportunities are available year-round (if desired) extending throughout the university career or as long as is desired and is beneficial to the individual and the program. Leader training takes time, energy, commitment and dedication to the Leader Mission statement:

WE, THE LEADERS OF SMU OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, ENRICH AND DEVELOP THE COMMUNITY, THE PROGRAM AND OURSELVES. WE MODEL LEADERSHIP BY CONSTANTLY BUILDING AND MAINTAINING INTERPERSONAL, EDUCATIONAL AND OUTDOOR SKILLS THROUGH A HIGH LEVEL OF SELF-AWARENESS AND AN ATMOSPHERE OF EXCELLENCE. WE MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT BY CREATING AN OPEN ENVIRONMENT THAT ENGAGES THE COMMUNITY AND EMPOWERS ITS INDIVIDUALS TO EXPLORE NEW FRONTIERS.

Applications are typically accepted at beginning of semester or academic year, however, hiring of leaders will be determined by program needs.

Interested in gaining life-long transferable leadership skills?

Application Process:

Submit an application through HANDSHAKE

Application is reviewed by the Peer Hiring Committee.

Interview by Hiring Committee follows.

Interview by program administrators follow, then hiring happens.

Trip Leader applicants must complete the Outdoor Leadership Training (OLT) trip.