

Essay Questions

Please submit responses to the following questions. Each essay response should not exceed 500 words unless indicated otherwise.

Essay questions for ALL applicants to complete:

1. Discuss a time when you had to make a choice between doing what is *right* versus what is *popular*? Please describe the situation; what was your decision, why did you make it and what was the result?

Shadowing Experience for ALL applicants to complete (750 word maximum)

2. One of the main responsibilities of ResStaff is to build inclusive community. Please discuss your experience shadowing a ResStaff member. What did you learn about the community? Please provide positive or negative examples of social justice and community building you witnessed during your experience. What does it mean to have an inclusive community and why do you feel this is important?

Supplementary Essay Question for Minority Peer Advisor/Assistant (MPA/A) Applicants:

1. Please explain your involvement in activities centered on multiculturalism and diversity education. How will your experiences in these activities shape your position as an MPA/A?
2. The MPA/A position requires a person to be able to act quickly in times of crisis and take steps to alleviate a situation centered on social identities. Please describe a time where you responded toward a critical situation. What actions did you take? Is there anything you would change about how you responded to the situation and what did you take away from it?
3. Which aspect of the MPA/A position will you find most challenging; and in what way do you hope to grow from the experience?

Supplementary Essay Questions for Peer Academic Support Specialist (PASS)

[Formerly known as Academic Peer Advisor (APA)] Applicants:

1. Which aspects of the PASS position attract you the most and which will you find most challenging? Please explain why.
2. What issues would you discuss with a student who has received his/her first grade of 'C'? How would you respond to their concerns?
3. Under what circumstances would you encourage a student to consult a tutor or an academic support service (e.g. Math Lab, Sweetland Writing Center, etc)? How would you go about referring the student to the service to make your referral most effective?
4. How has your educational philosophy developed from your first year in college to the present?

5. Community Learning Centers (CLC's) are envisioned as the academic hubs of the residence halls, providing an 'information commons' designed to stimulate residents intellectual curiosity, engage their ability for critical inquiry, foster collaboration among peers and faculty, and help undergraduates explore a wide range of knowledge resources. CLC's are suited to a variety of activities throughout the day including Michigan Learning Community class instruction, Sweetland Writing Center workshops, special programs and presentations, studying and relaxation.

Please discuss what sort of unique, creative activities, services and programs you would catalyze in the CLC's as they are renovated.