

Residence Hall Association
Community Council, RHA
Senator, & RHA Ambassador
Election Packet



RHA

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

2018-2019

RHA Involvement Opportunities

What is RHA?

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the representative governing body of all on-campus residents, and works in collaboration with the Department of Residential Life by reviewing and recommending changes in regulations, policies, and physical facilities pertinent and beneficial to students living on campus.

The RHA mission is to develop, connect, and involve the community of LSU residents. RHA strives to develop the community through multiple social and leadership opportunities. RHA endeavors to connect the community by exchanging ideas and information at local, regional, and national conferences, and by programming to a diverse body of students. RHA aims to increase the involvement of LSU residents in campus activities by creating a promising, supportive, and positive environment.

How do I get involved in RHA?

Residents can choose from several different opportunities to get involved in RHA. RHA has three branches to its organization: Community Councils, RHA Senate, and RHA Ambassadors.

- **Community Council:** Community Councils are organizations made up of the residents within a particular community, who develop educational and social programs for the residents of a community, advocate for the needs of the community, and enhance the community experience for all those living within a community. A president, vice president, historian, and advertisement chair meet on a weekly basis to discuss community issues and plan upcoming initiatives and events.
- **RHA Senate:** The RHA Senate is made up of three RHA Senators per residential community. RHA Senators meet on a weekly basis to discuss campus-wide issues, especially as they relate to living on-campus. RHA Senators also serve on RHA taskforces to further RHA-wide initiatives.
- **RHA Ambassadors:** RHA Ambassadors are a group of individuals who assist RHA in implementing signature programming such as Block Party, Splatterbeat, and Crawfish Boil. Additionally, this group will actively develop and implement marketing for RHA and its events through initiatives such as social media campaigns, table sits, and other advertising for the organization.

Residential Communities

- Blake, Acadian, & McVoy Halls
- Cypress Hall
- Edward Gay Apartments
- East Campus Apartments
- Kirby Smith Hall
- Laville Hall (East and West)
- Herget Hall
- Horseshoe Community (Annie Boyd, Evangeline, Highland, and Louise Garig Halls)
- Miller Hall
- Nicholson Gateway (Riverbend, Canal, Oxbow, Gulf, Delta, Marsh, and Bayou Halls)
- Pentagon Community (Beauregard, Jackson, LeJeune, and Taylor Halls)
- RC North (North and Broussard Halls)
- RC South (South and West Halls)
- Spruce Hall
- West Campus Apartments

Community Council Executive Board Positions

President

Responsibilities:

- Preside over all Community Council meetings and sets the agendas for said meetings
- Serve as a liaison between Community Council and Residential Life staff
- Hold other Community Council members accountable for attendance
- Receive feedback from community members and implements initiatives to improve the community
- Ensure social and educational programs are developed by the community council

Time Commitment:

- Attend weekly Community Council Executive Board meetings
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Attend various training & development sessions at RHA General Assemblies, which will be scheduled about once a month
- Meet with Community Council advisor weekly.
- Volunteer for at least one RHA event a semester

Vice President

Responsibilities:

- Assists President in their duties
- Manages Community Council membership
- Manages the Community Council budget

Time Commitment:

- Attend weekly Community Council Executive Board meetings
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Attend various training & development sessions at RHA General Assemblies, which will be scheduled about once a month
- Volunteer for at least one RHA event a semester

Historian

Responsibilities:

- Take meeting minutes at all Community Council meetings
- Take pictures at all Community Council events.
- Submit programs put on by Community Council to RHA
- Take attendance at all Community Council meetings

Time Commitment:

- Attend weekly Community Council Executive Board meetings
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Attend various training & development sessions at RHA General Assemblies, which will be scheduled about once a month
- Volunteer for at least one RHA event a semester

Advertisement Chair

Responsibilities:

- Design posters, banners, digital advertisements, and other publicity for Community Council events and meetings
- Coordinate with the community RA Captain for social media to post on the community social media account

Time Commitment:

- Attend weekly Community Council Executive Board meetings
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Attend various training & development sessions at RHA General Assemblies, which will be scheduled about once a month.
- Volunteer for at least one RHA event a semester

RHA Senate Positions

RHA Senator (3 per community)

Responsibilities:

- Serve as liaison between one's residential community and the RHA General Assembly by attending all weekly RHA General Assemblies
- Vote in the interest of one's community at RHA meetings
- Serve on at least one RHA Taskforce
- Volunteer for Community Council events

Time Commitment:

- Attend weekly RHA General Assemblies on Thursdays at 5:00 PM
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Attend weekly RHA Taskforce meetings via video chat
- Volunteer for at least one RHA event a semester

RHA Ambassadors Positions

RHA Ambassador (no limit per community)

Responsibilities:

- Serve as an active member of RHA Ambassadors by attending all bi-weekly RHA Ambassador meetings, including additional meetings immediately preceding RHA signature programs
- Assist in the planning & implementation of RHA signature programming such as Block Party, Splatterbeat, and Crawfish Boil
- Develop and implement marketing for RHA and its events through initiatives such as social media campaigns, table sits, and other advertising for the organization
- Volunteer for Community Council events

Time Commitment:

- Attend bi-weekly RHA Ambassador meetings
- Attend bi-weekly Community Council General Assemblies
- Volunteer for all RHA events each semester
- Attend various training & development sessions at RHA General Assemblies, which will be scheduled about once a month

Election Timeline

Application Deadline: August 25th, 2018

Residents will have until this date to fill out the intent form at https://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ez0w26eAzOIIOUR. Once a candidate receive confirmation from RHA that they meet minimum qualifications, the candidate will be allowed to submit a flier to their Residence Life Coordinator to advertise for their position. All campaigning will begin after August 25th, 2018, and must follow guidelines within this packet.

The application will allow candidates to rank all positions they are interested in pursuing, and will be placed on the ballot for each of those positions. If a candidate wins several elections, they will receive the position they ranked highest. All candidates will be considered for the RHA Ambassador position.

Community Council President Interviews: August 27th – 28th, 2018

All residents who want to apply for the Community Council President position will interview with the one Residential Life staff member (a Residence Life Coordinator or Graduate Residence Director), and one RHA executive board member. This interview is designed to discuss the position in detail to ensure that those applying understand the commitment of this position. After this interview, Candidates for the Community Council President position will learn if they can continue running for this position, or if a different position within RHA might be a better fit.

Elections: August 30th – 31st, 2018

All residents will receive an email with a link to an election ballot for Community Council Executive Board, RHA Senator, and RHA Ambassador positions. Residents will only be allowed to vote once.

Results: September 4th, 2018

Candidates will receive an email from the RHA Vice President about election results, and what position those individuals received. Candidates must accept their position by 8:00 AM on Thursday, September 6th, 2018, or risk losing their position.

RHA Training: September 6th, 2018

RHA Training will be held from 5:00 PM – 6:20 PM, and it is required for all individuals who run for a position.

Campaign Guidelines

1. Candidates must know and follow all guidelines presented in this document.
2. Campaigning for positions will begin on August 25th, 2018.
3. Candidates can only campaign in the following ways:
 - a. Submitting one campaign flier (on an 8 ½ by 11 sheet of paper) to the Residence Life Coordinator of the community. The Residence Life Coordinator will designate a location within each residential community to post.
 - b. Using blue painter's tape, posting campaign fliers on one's own room door.
 - c. Creating one's own social media posts
 - d. A candidate may sit in a public spaces within a community and interact with any residents who may pass through the space. However, the candidate may not block the path of a resident from entering or exiting a space without interacting with a candidate. This candidate-to-resident interaction must be mutually agreed upon.
4. Campaigning in any of the following ways may jeopardize a candidate's ability to continue in the process. At the discretion of the RHA executive board, serious infractions will result in the immediate removal of a resident's ability :
 - a. Posting campaign materials in non-approved areas
 - b. Sliding posters or other campaign materials under residents' doors
 - c. Going door-to-door and knocking on doors
 - d. Direct messaging of residents through any form of electronic communication (email, group text message, social media, etc.)
 - e. Spending any money on campaigning
 - f. Bribing voters in any way
 - g. Any campaigning that impedes on a resident's ability to freely participate in their educational or co-curricular experience, including but not limited to, blocking the path of a resident from entering or exiting a space without interacting with a candidate
 - h. Campaign in any other way that is not outlined in previously approved methods
5. Candidates or persons helping a campaign may not deface or take down another candidate's poster.
6. Candidates are responsible for all persons helping their campaign.
7. If a candidate intends to withdraw, they must email RHA at rha@lsu.edu as soon as they intend to withdraw
8. Violation of any of these rules may result in the disqualification of the candidate.
9. Any questions about these guidelines or known violations of said guidelines must be sent to RHA Vice President at rha@lsu.edu.
10. All campaign materials must be removed within 48 hours of election results being posted.