



Coastal Carolina University

Transforming Teacher Education

Teaching Fellows Fall 2015!

The South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program is a scholarship program for qualified South Carolina high school students who wish to pursue a degree in education and a career in South Carolina's public schools following graduation. Administered by the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement, the program provides a \$24,000 scholarship/loan over 4 years for up to 200 outstanding high school seniors. Coastal Carolina University is one of only thirteen (13) institutions in the state identified as a Teaching Fellows Institution.

Teaching Fellows Orientation

All Teaching Fellows will be required to attend a two-day Orientation program in the summer prior to starting classes. Regional school administrators and business representatives who serve on our Board of Visitors will participate in this orientation. The program will specifically focus on identifying and explaining the experiential opportunities that are designed for Teaching Fellows, including advanced enrichment opportunities, professional development, and relevant involvement with communities and businesses. The common theme for our experiential opportunities will be a focus on tutoring, service learning, and projects related to improving literacy among students and throughout the community. The Chanticleer Literacy Lab (CLL) at Coastal Carolina University serves the community by bridging the expertise of the University with the needs of the children in the area. Coastal Carolina University serves students PK-grade 12 with literacy assessments and individualized tutoring in addition to other programs (e.g., summer reading camps). The CLL strives to create a supportive and interactive environment where students can acquire a love of reading. Each Teaching Fellow (TF) will volunteer at the CLL 10 hours a semester to help students identify their needs and develop their unique strengths through the development of individualized learning plans.

In addition to the general orientation, there will be team-building/relationship activities among the students, and with the director and other key individuals who will be working with the program. As emphasized in the Teaching Fellows Program literature, camaraderie is an emphasis of the program. It is not just a scholarship program, but also a program that provides opportunities to develop close relationships and leadership skills. Those aspects of the program will be introduced at orientation, and once the program is launched, our TF officers will take a major role in the orientation for incoming freshmen.

University Orientation

All Teaching Fellows and other new first-year students are required to attend a two-day Orientation program in the summer prior to starting their classes. During this Orientation, students will meet with representatives from their academic college, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship, the Registrar, Student Activities and Leadership and many others.

While at Orientation, Teaching Fellows will learn what it means to be a student at CCU, ways to get involved on campus, and traditions of the University. Teaching Fellows will also have the opportunity to meet other students who will be enrolling at Coastal, as well as current University students. Also during this time, Teaching Fellows will meet with their academic adviser (also the Director of the Teaching Fellows Program) and get their semester class schedules.

In addition to participating in orientation activities that acclimate Teaching Fellows to the whole University community, specific Teaching Fellow program activities will involve them in an overview of the program, introductory “get to know you” activities, a scavenger hunt to become familiar with campus, and finally, an organizational overview that will allow Teaching Fellows consider serving as program leaders. These leaders will campaign throughout the first two weeks of school and will include the office of president, vice president, and administrative assistant. Program leaders will work with their peers to form committees that will organize fundraising, social events and service learning projects. Teaching Fellow officers will serve a two-year term.

Each Teaching Fellow cohort group will be placed in a Residential Learning Community (RLCs) designed to assist them in making the transition from high school to college. This residential arrangement will complement the scope and sequence of courses and learning experiences that the cohort group will share. Resident advisers and academic mentors, in collaboration with the director of the Teaching Fellows Program, will help facilitate floor events, guest lectures, field trips and one-on-one support.

In year two, each new Teaching Fellow will be assigned a peer mentor who is a second year Teaching Fellow. The peer mentors will be involved from the very beginning, making recruitment welcoming calls, attending all orientation activities and serving as a contact person throughout the year.

Welcome Week

College life is a major change for freshmen, and with that in mind, the University has planned a program to assist them with this transition. Welcome Week is designed to complement the orientation program described above. During Welcome Week, Teaching Fellows will attend a variety of sessions designed to acquaint them with resources and ideas regarding time management, extracurricular opportunities, study habits, learning support systems, student organizations and leadership opportunities.

Teaching Fellows will also have a specifically designated meeting with the Director of the Teaching Fellows Program, Spadoni College of Education (SCOE) Program Coordinators and

representatives from the Interdepartmental Advisory Committee. The focus of this meeting will be to meet individual faculty, school leaders and community members who will be working with Teaching Fellows throughout their service-learning and school-based experiential learning projects.

Leadership Development

Coastal Carolina University provides opportunities for students to become involved in several organizations on a variety of participant and leadership levels. In addition to becoming familiar with these organizations during freshman orientation, Teaching Fellows will become more aware of these opportunities through representatives from the Office of Student Activities and Leadership attending the monthly Teaching Fellows seminars. These opportunities extend from freshman through senior year.

In addition, the Dean of the Spadoni College of Education, Associate Dean, Program Coordinators, and all members of our Teaching Fellow Advisory Board and College Board of Visitors will be instrumental in providing leadership opportunities to our Teaching Fellows. Specifically, Teaching Fellows will be required to serve as representatives and possibly officers on the Dean's Student Advisory Committee, the Spadoni College Teacher Education Advisory Committee and the Student South Carolina Education Association. In addition to these required activities, Teaching Fellows will have opportunities to interact with leaders across campus through seminars and educational events held at the Biddle Center for Community Engagement and the Center for Teaching Excellence to Advance Learning (CeTEAL). Several community leaders serve on our Board of Visitors who will also provide opportunities for students to observe, volunteer and become involved in service learning experiences through their organizations.

Student Activities and Leadership Mission

The Office of Student Activities and Leadership believes that each Coastal Carolina University student's experience is enhanced by activities and programs outside of the classroom. The office creates opportunities for students to participate actively, grow personally, and explore new ideas and interests through a variety of entertainment, educational and involvement experiences. Supporting the University's mission of ensuring student success, Student Activities and Leadership provides students the necessary tools and resources for their individual and student organization success. This office exists to create a student life experience exclusive to Coastal Carolina University. To accomplish this mission, we will promote student involvement outside the classroom, provide high-quality guidance and support to individual students and student organizations, and develop students who are productive, responsible members of the community.

For more information about the Coastal Carolina University Teaching Fellows Program, contact Campus Director Amanda J. Darden at adarden1@coastal.edu.

For more information on Coastal Carolina University, visit coastal.edu.