APPLICATION TO COMMUNITY SEMESTER NYC

ABOUT COMMUNITY SEMESTER NYC

Community Semester is a full-time, intensive academic and service-learning program that provides students with an opportunity to put their passion for social justice to work. Students will analyze the experience they gain in the field by studying community organizing, community development, government, and non-profit leadership.

By contributing to the movement themselves, students will learn first-hand how community-based organizations fight for housing, immigrant, and tenants' rights, economic and civic justice, neighborhood resilience, youth engagement, and community empowerment.

The Community Semester program subsidies your tuition and fees up to $7,000. Any amount in excess of tuition costs are issued to interns for living and other personal expenses. Upon completing the program, undergraduate students earn 16 credits and are awarded a Certificate in Community Leadership. Graduate students earn 12 credits and are awarded an Advanced Certificate in Community Leadership. These credits can be applied toward the BA in Urban and Community Studies and the MA in Urban Studies, if admitted to either program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- The program is open to undergraduates, recent college graduates, and graduate students
- Community Semester NYC is a 15-week, full-time commitment. Program participants will not have time for additional classes and/or work a second job.
- To qualify for admission, **undergraduate applicants** must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5. They must have completed 24 college credits before the start of the Community Semester NYC. **Graduate applicants** must have a bachelor's degree and a GPA of 3.0 or higher in a post-baccalaureate program. Applicants must also complete the **Community Semester Supplemental Application.**
- After completion, please upload as an attachment to the Undergraduate/Graduate application.
- **Community Semester applicants enrolled at other CUNY campuses should request an e-permit from their home school prior to submitting this application.** Please contact your academic department or advisor to be sure you understand the ePermit guidelines, procedures, and deadlines. Colleges need ample time to review and approve ePermit requests. The applicant's ePermit for each of the four courses must be submitted to SLU at least 10-days prior to the semester's first official day.
- Qualified applicants will be contacted by the Program Coordinator for a phone interview.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at CommunitySemester@slu.cuny.edu

Spring 2022 COMMUNITY SEMESTER NYC SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION

Windows Users
Follow the link to install the most current version of Adobe Acrobat Reader DC: http://get.adobe.com/reader/

Mac Users
Follow the link to install the most current version of Adobe Acrobat Reader DC:
https://get.adobe.com/reader/otherversions/

Application Guide

I. General Information
II. Skills Assessment
III. Community Semester Questionnaire
IV. Personal Statement and Resume
V. Recommendations

Application Instructions

1. Save the blank form to your computer.
2. Open the application and fill in all of the required sections.
3. Once complete, save.
4. Upload the document to your CUNYfirst application in the 'Additional Information - Community Semester' section.

If you have any questions or concerns about this supplemental application, please feel free to contact the Community Semester Program Coordinator, Crystal Joseph by e-mail, CommunitySemester@slu.cuny.edu or phone, (646) 313-8334.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

First Name, Last Name: _____EMPLID_____

Address: _____ City, State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

1. Are you applying at the undergraduate or graduate level? If 'other' please describe.

☐ Undergraduate   ☐ Graduate   ☐ Other   _____

2. Which term are you applying to: ☐ Spring   20_____   ☐ Fall 20_____

3. How did you learn about the Community Semester Program?

4. List the name and affiliation of the individual(s) from whom you have requested letters of recommendation:

	Full Name	Affiliation
Reference 1		
Reference 2		

II. SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Community Semester places students in a wide variety of work situations. To help our staff make the best placement for you and your host organization, please complete this survey. Our team will use your answers to these questions along with the other application materials to help determine your placement, and for that purpose only

For questions 1-5, please assess your level of knowledge in each skill using the following scale.

1-No Knowledge
2-Some Knowledge
3-Competent
4-Proficient
5-Excellent
Not Applicable (N/A)

EXAMPLE		
Operating systems		
5 Windows	3 Mac	1 Linux

1. **Working with a non-English speaking population**

    _____Spanish   _____Chinese   _____English as a Second Language

    _____Other Language, please specify: [   ]

2. **Computers and Internet**

    _____Internet Research   _____Database Management   _____Website

    _____Graphics/Design   _____Desktop Publishing   _____Social Networking Media

Please specify the computer software programs you are familiar with (i.e., Word, Excel, Photoshop)

[   ]

3. **Communication and Research Skills**

_____Teaching   _____Interviewing   _____Public Speaking   _____Journalism

_____Video   _____Photography   _____Creative Writing

Briefly elaborate on your level of communication and research skills below.

4. **Campaign Activities**

_____Campaign Volunteer   _____Voter Registration   _____Designing Flyers

_____Door-to-Door Canvassing   _____Organizing Meetings   _____Phone Banking

Briefly elaborate on the campaign activities you participated in below.

5. **Please use the space below to highlight any talents or skills you possess that were not addressed above**.

6. **Please rank your level of interest in the topics listed below.**

1-Least interested
2-Somewhat interested
3-Interested
4-Very interested
5-Extremely interested

_____Research   _____Member Education   _____Public Policy

_____Community Organizing   _____Union Organizing   _____Writing

_____Communications/Media/PR   _____Political Action   _____Other *(please specify below)*

III. COMMUNITY SEMESTER QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following four questions. We want to get to know you and the contributions you would make to the Community Semester program, your host organization, and the School of Labor and Urban Studies. Your answers to these questions should be **no less than one paragraph and no more than three paragraphs each**.

1. **Please describe a major issue impacting your community. Include your own thoughts about how you would address that problem or issue.**

2. **Identify three professional skills you would like to develop if enrolled in the Community Semester Program.**

3.   **Please list any volunteer or fieldwork experiences you have had**

4.   **Describe, in detail, your work style. What are your work patterns as a student? As a co-worker? And as a teammate? What unique contributions do you think you could make to the community-based organization where you will intern?**

5.   **In almost every internship there will be challenges. These challenges can be related to interpersonal relationships, time management, language or communication, work quality, expectations, etc. Other challenges might be related to balancing work, studies, family, and other obligations while maintaining your commitment to the program. Describe the most significant challenge you think you might face at your internship and in the program and three strategies you might use to overcome that challenge.**

IV. PERSONAL STATEMENT AND RESUME

Applicants must attach a personal statement and their most current resume to <u>this application</u>.

Please note, there is no specific topic or question for the personal statement because you are the best judge of what you should write. Write about something personal, relevant, and completely individual to you. This may include a significant aspect of your background, a quality or trait you believe defines your personal or professional goals, a transformative experience, or the things that interest and motivate you.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

Community Semester applicants are required to submit two recommendations. The recommendations must be from individuals who have knowledge of your academic and/or professional background. To begin the process, please access the approved *Recommendation Form* and complete the applicant section. You must do this twice (once for each recommender). Forward the *Recommendation Form* to your chosen recommender, who will complete the remaining sections.