ASTeP (Autism Support in Transition Program) Peer Mentor

ASTeP Program:

ASTeP is designed specifically to provide extra support for transition to WCU for students diagnosed as on the Autism Spectrum, helping those students to bridge the gap between high school and college. ASTeP students are currently accepted students participating in Catamount Gap learning communities of their choice. Peer Mentors will work directly with ASTeP students to provide academic, social, and independent living strategies. Peer Mentors will participate in training activities, assist with summer orientation and move-in activities, facilitate social activities, and act as individual supports for a small caseload of students (2:1).

Specific responsibilities of the Peer Mentors include:

* Participate in training session in June (dates TBD).
* Assist with move-in June 21, ASTeP activities and programming June 22-23, and Orientation June 25-26.
* Conduct skills consultations with students, assessing academic, social, and independence skills and creating action plans.
* Work with Supplemental Instructors, PALs, and others to coordinate supports as needed.
* Assist with out-of-class programs, modeling and encouraging active participation.
* Encourage and support use of campus resources and services.
* Promote interest and engagement in campus activities and programs.
* Provide resources and strategies to help students develop effective academic, social, and independence skills.
* Encourage accountability by following up with students on their action plans.
* Document interactions and contacts with students.
* Plan, coordinate, and execute evening and weekend programming activities.
* Participate in Residential Living programming efforts during summer programs.

Qualifications:

* Sophomore, Junior, Senior or Graduate student currently enrolled at WCU. Minimum GPA 2.5
* Excellent interpersonal & communications skills. Good organizational & academic skills.
* Understanding of and able to work effectively with individuals of diverse backgrounds, abilities, communication styles.
* Able and committed to work beginning mid-June through August 2. Will include some weekend and evening hours.
* Eligible for on-campus student employment (i.e. meets qualifications outlined for non-work-study student employment).

Dates of Employment and Terms of Commitment: June 12 (tentative)-August 2, 20 hours/week, 5 positions available.