

## **Resident Assistant – FAQs**

### **What are the general requirements to be a Resident Assistant (RA)?**

Applicants must be full-time Elizabethtown College students, who has preferably lived in the residence halls for at least two semesters. Candidates must have exemplary disciplinary records and have both cumulative and semester GPAs of 2.5 or higher.

Applicants must have demonstrated commitment to fostering a multiculturally inclusive living-learning community that fosters student growth and cohesion. Leadership, team building, organizational, and interpersonal communication skills are essential.

### **Will I have to sign a contract?**

Yes. Every RA must sign a contract that they will abide by the requirements of the position. Violations of this contract can result in termination from the RA position.

### **Will I have control over what building I work in?**

Building assignments are made based on your personality and the needs of the buildings, including special interest housing (substance free, stonewall, etc.). Preference is asked during the application process and all efforts are made to place staff where they wish to be, but not guaranteed.

### **What compensation will I receive for being an RA?**

The Resident Assistant will be granted a room waiver, and receive a stipend of \$900.00 distributed over the course of the academic year.

### **Will serving as an RA impact my financial aid package?**

It may. We strongly encourage applicants to talk with the Financial Aid Office to understand how the role would impact them specifically before applying.

### **I see RAs "on call." What does that mean? How many night per week will I be on call?**

Every night that school is in session, there must be an RA available for the residents of their building. This is referred to as "on call." On call shifts for residence halls begin at 8:00PM each evening and ends at 7:00AM the following morning. The RA is also expected to perform rounds throughout the building(s) while on call during the weekends.

RAs are typically on call one weeknight per week and one weekend a month, but based on the size of the staff, each building may have a different rotation. They are expected to be accessible, visible, and available throughout the week. The RA is also expected to be on call at least one weekend per month.

### **Do RAs have roommates?**

Typically, no. On rare occasions, RAs have been assigned roommates in instances of overcrowding of the halls. If the RA is not assigned to a single room, they may elect to have a roommate.

## **Resident Assistant – FAQs (cont.)**

### **Do RAs have to stay over breaks?**

RAs will be expected to remain on campus/on call the evening of closings (Fall Break, Thanksgiving break, Winter break, Spring break, Easter Break, End of the year closing) and return to campus the day that buildings open (Fall Break, Thanksgiving break, Winter break, Spring break, Easter Break).

### **Are there any weekends that I must be on campus?**

Yes. RAs need to be available for special event weekends, which include but are not limited to the first and last weekends of the semester or further specific events which may require attendance, including RA Training, Homecoming, TGIS, and others as designated by Residence Life.

### **I have a job off-campus. Can I keep it and still be able to be an RA?**

In the vast majority of cases, the answer is yes. Many RAs have other positions on and off-campus. However, keep in mind that your other job commitment should not significantly interfere with your ability to establish supportive relationships with your residents, and RAs must have approval from their Area Coordinator to work more than 10 hours per week.

### **I am involved in co-curricular activities (clubs, organizations, etc.). Can I be an RA?**

Yes. Many RAs have also been involved in co-curricular/extracurricular activities. Keep in mind that other commitments should not significantly interfere with your ability to establish supportive relationships with your residents. RAs should have conversations with their Area Coordinators about concerns regarding affected job performance due to co-curricular involvement.

### **How many credit hours may I carry?**

Enrollment in at least 12 credit hours per semester is required. RAs must appeal to continue their appointment if they are registered for fewer than 12 undergraduate credit hours.

### **What happens if I am an RA and decide to date one of my residents?**

While engaging in a relationship with a resident in your own building is not necessarily a terminable offense, it is strongly frowned upon. The nature of the RA position requires contact with information that is sensitive and private in nature. A relationship with a resident may hinder the RA's ability to adequately perform his/her job, and may cause conflict between other staff members and/or residents in the building.

### **Can I student teach or intern as an RA?**

Past RAs have student taught and have completed internships. However, due to the time commitments for an RA and the requirement to complete an internship or student teaching experience, it is recommended that RAs student teach or participate in an internship only if the expectations of the RA job are not compromised (i.e. missing duty nights/weekends; inability to program; inability to make constructive relationships with residents; etc.).

## **Community Fellow – FAQs**

### **What are the general requirements to be a Community Fellow (CF)?**

Applicants must be full-time Elizabethtown College students, who has preferably lived in the residence halls. Candidates must have exemplary disciplinary records and have both cumulative and semester GPAs of 2.5 or higher.

Applicants must have demonstrated commitment to fostering a multiculturally inclusive living-learning community that fosters student growth and cohesion. Leadership, team building, organizational, and interpersonal communication skills are essential.

### **What compensation will I receive for being a CF?**

Community Fellows are paid \$8.00/hour and work 5-10 hours per week (no more than 85 hours in one semester). Students selected to be Community Fellows also will be automatically placed into an Independent Living Unit (ILU) with roommates of their choice (must be upper division students). Which specific ILU will be determined by the Office of Residence Life.

### **Will serving as a CF impact my financial aid package?**

It may. We strongly encourage applicants to talk with the Financial Aid Office to understand how the role would impact them specifically before applying.

### **Are Community Fellows ever on call?**

No, Community Fellows do not serve in an on call rotation.

### **Do Community Fellows have to stay over breaks?**

CFs will be expected to remain on campus and help close down the residential facilities prior to and College break (Fall, Thanksgiving, Winter, Spring, Easter, and Summer).

### **I have a job off-campus. Can I keep it and still be able to be a CF?**

In the vast majority of cases, the answer is yes. Many CFs have other positions on and off-campus. However, keep in mind that your other job commitment should not significantly interfere with your ability to establish supportive relationships with your residents.