



Urban Plunge Leader (Emerging Leader)



PURPOSE: The Urban Plunge leader is an extension on the Assistant Dean of Spiritual Formation that helps guide peers on an alternative spring break mission opportunity each year. Students will assist in furthering the vision of Urban Plunge to reach to urban centers across the United States, and participate in the redemptive work of God in those places as they lead a group of students in a one-week mission opportunity focused on hospitality, learning, service, prayer, and reflection. The specific qualifications and responsibilities for an Urban Plunge Leader are outlined below:

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be in good academic and judicial standing with Rochester College
- Exhibit an active and growing Christian faith
- Positively supports the mission of Campus Ministry and demonstrates enthusiasm for the college, students, faculty, staff and co-curricular programming
- Possesses an in-depth knowledge of the institution and its resources
- Communicates effectively both verbally and written; as well as interactively with various technologies
- Be willing to help students with personal concerns (including, but not limited to: housing, parking, social interactions, self-care, academic pressures, loneliness, etc.)
- Demonstrate sensitivity/interest in diversity/cultural differences; ability to effectively communicate with a variety of personalities
- Function effectively in a team environment
- Exhibit strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Have the ability to prioritize multiple tasks and responsibilities
- Displays high moral character and models Christian Spirituality with his/her actions

Urban Plunge history & Ethos:

Urban Plunge is a flagship program within campus ministry that challenges common perspectives of what it means to do traditional “mission work” and invites students to a much more rich, and contextual understanding of what it means to locate God’s activity in the world, name that activity, and become willing participants in God’s pervasive missional activity. Students live and serve in Urban environments around the country learning the skills of ethnography, and contextual ministry. We come as learners and detectives instead of heroes who have cornered the market on having answers and resources. We make room for ourselves to rely on the wisdom of local ministry partners who have engaged in the particularity of God’s work in those spaces to teach us how they are participating in God’s Missional activity. Urban

Plunge intentionally participates with missional communities in urban centers instead of hotels, or other living accommodations removed from the people we seek to journey with. Urban Plunge is an experiment in community living, shared meals, shared space, shared work, and shared life together located in an intense learning environment. God has made room for us in God's personhood. Urban Plunge helps students participate in that grace, in order to find in all spaces of their lives.

Current Urban Plunge Locations:

Detroit- Students partner with Hope House Detroit for the week. We practice communal living, and contextual ministry on the Eastside of Detroit. This opportunity is available to all classmen. Hope house detroit teaches students to practice Loving their neighbor, by being good neighbors with unfiltered, unbounded love. <http://hopehousedetroit.org/>

Chicago- Students partner with Just-Embrace community house for the week. We practice communal living, and contextual ministry on the near north side in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood. Just Embrace helps students understand restorative ways to embrace communities in ministry. <http://justembrace.org/>

NEW CITIES!!!- We are seeking to expand the scope of urban plunge to more urban centers around the country.. Have a city you want to work in? Make a proposal to the Assistant Dean of Spiritual Formation and begin laying the foundations of a future Urban Plunge. Locate missional communities in the city, find service organizations, churches, nonprofits and unique learning opportunities that attend to program learning outcomes within the center for student life. Once approved you, and a the ADSF will conduct a survey trip to the city.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Urban Plunge Trip planning: The Urban Plunge Leader is a cultivator and executor of a missional experience over spring break. Students work with a staff/faculty liaison to plan Urban Plunge in their chosen and approved city.

1. Work collaboratively with the ADSF and staff/faculty liaison to prayerfully prepare for Urban Plunge.
2. Coordinate transportation arrangements to and from the city
3. Coordinate living arrangements for Urban Plunge with missional living partners in the city of interest.
4. Coordinate meals, and student meal preparation schedule to invite students to make room for giving and receiving service from one another.
5. Advertise upcoming informational meetings, and missional preparation meetings for students going on the trip.
6. Accept Urban Plunge applications and work with ADSF and staff/faculty liaison to build your Urban Plunge team.

Missional Leadership: A Campus Ministry assistant will serve students by leading ministry opportunities in the campus community that empower spiritual growth and exploration.

1. Co-lead the urban Plunge trip

2. Guide students in a rhythm of action, reflection, and articulation on the Urban plunge trip to deepen awareness of God's activity.
3. Develop and maintain positive relationships with student and ministry leaders through availability, accountability, creativity, credibility, and confidentiality.
4. Create and invite students to a shared rhythm of life for the Urban Plunge trip
5. Conduct monthly Urban plunge preparation meetings with student team and faculty/staff liaison. (These should include: Spiritual practices, shared learning through books/videos/articles, team building exercises, and the creation of a shared rhythm of life leading up to and through Urban Plunge)

Pastoral Presence: The Urban Plunge Leader will be a student leader of peer pastoral care, and assist the ADSF in being pastorally present to the Rochester College Community.

1. Be a good listener.
2. Be available to pray with students as they express need.

Administrative Tasks: The Urban Plunge Leader will be responsible for administrative duties related to the day-to-day operations of the area in which they serve. All responsibilities will be conducted with guidance and assistance from the ADSF or staff/Faculty liaison of the trip.

1. Research ministry opportunities unique to your city of interest
2. Find books, article, reviews, and conversation partners in the city of interest that facilitate learning about history, culture, values, and the people of that city.
3. Schedule dates/times/locations for urban Plunge trip.
4. Coordinate all related budgetary needs for Urban Plunge.
5. Consistent communication with students going on the Urban Plunge Trip.
6. Keep records of medical release forms, participation waivers, etc needed for the trip.
7. Communicate with local ministry partners to ensure smooth planning and execution.
8. Maintain calendar of events and deadlines for all Urban Plunge related activities.
9. Perform assigned tasks in a timely and professional manner and meet assigned deadlines. consistently. (24 hour email response time for external emails)
10. Perform other duties as assigned by the ADSF and/or Staff/Faculty sponsor.

Staff Training and Development: The Urban Plunge leader is expected to participate in staff training, which is designed to develop the Urban Plunge Leader to have the necessary skills to perform their job and meet expectations.

1. Attend all scheduled meetings with Urban Plunge team to prepare for the trip.
2. Participate with the ADSF in mutual performance evaluations based on job description.
3. Participate in the annual spring leadership retreat

Support of Policies and Standards: The Urban Plunge Leader is a representative of the College in his/her relationships and contacts both on and off campus. The Urban Plunge Leader is expected to uphold institutional standards and policies as outlined in, Rochester College's Student Handbook.

1. Be thoroughly familiar with Rochester College's Student Handbook..
2. Communicate and model behavior and policy expectations of Rochester College to the campus community while representing Rochester College in the community.
3. Confront inappropriate behavior when it occurs and take necessary follow-up measures.
4. Support and do not openly disagree with college regulations.
5. Be quick to listen and slow to speak with fellow students. Seek appropriate channels to meet student concerns.

TIME COMMITMENT: This is a unique ministry leadership opportunity. Students can expect to put in at least an average of 2 hours/week leading up to the trip. This time will increase as the trip draws closer, and will culminate in 24/7 availability as students are leading the urban plunge experience. Extra-curricular activities should not conflict with the time needed to effectively perform the assigned duties of the Urban Plunge Leader position throughout the year. Urban Plunge Leaders are to be available and accessible to commuting and residential students throughout the academic year.

The Urban Plunge Leader position is a one academic year commitment. Reappointment is not guaranteed, but is based upon an exemplary performance record and the successful completion of all interviews and applications required for returning staff. The Urban Plunge leader's performance will be evaluated to maintain the highest possible standards. Failure to meet any of the qualifications or responsibilities listed in this agreement or specified by the Spiritual formation team, may result in personnel sanctions which could include, but are not limited to, verbal or written warnings, probation, or possible termination.