**First Star URI Academy Employment Application**

Now hiring Academy Mentors

* **Dates**: July 5- August 1 (two days of mandatory training in late June)
* **Location**: URI Kingston Campus
* **Shifts**:
	+ **1st shift**: 7:15 AM- 3:15 PM
	+ **2nd shift**: 3:00 PM- 7:15 PM
	+ **Overnight shift**: 11:00 PM- 7:00 AM
* **Pay**: Stipend (three bi-weekly payments) for approximately 40 hours/week (All mentors receive a membership to the URI fitness facilities and all meals and fees for field trips and other activities are covered by First Star)

Welcome to First Star URI Academy. We appreciate your interest in bettering the lives of at-risk foster youth. The First Star URI Academy is in its fourth year at URI. It is part of a national network of programs that bring high school students who are in the state foster care system to a college campus for a month in the summer. The First Star teens are exposed to all that college has to offer: living in a dorm, eating in a dining hall, taking classes for credit, participating in recreational and enrichment activities and learning more about the college application process. Working for the Academy, you will be part of a groundbreaking program in which foster teens receive the academic guidance and support they need to reach college and achieve their dreams. Mentors will be assigned small groups of students. You will serve as role models for them while escorting them to scheduled classes and events, assisting them with homework, participating in recreation with them, and sharing your own experiences about going to college.

A successful applicant should have experience working with at-risk teens or children and serving as a positive role model. Priority will be given to URI students. Applicants currently studying counseling, education, human development, psychology, or human services and are in good academic standing would be preferred. Applicants who have been part of the foster care system will be given special consideration.

**In order to be selected as an employee of First Star URI Academy, you must:**

1. Submit a completed application by dropping it off at the First Star Office (202 Tyler Hall, URI) or by emailing it to the administrative director **prior to 4/3/15.**
2. Interview with the director and the communications coordinator.
3. Complete sophomore year by May 2015.
4. Successfully pass criminal and child welfare background checks.
5. Submit a letter of recommendation from a professor or academic advisor.
6. Be available to attend MANDATORY staff training and orientation prior to the camp opening (dates TBA).

*Thank you for your interest in becoming a First Star URI Academy employee. If you have any questions, please contact:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Merry Caswell, Administrative Director | OR | Jenneya Bennett, Communications Coordinator |
| p: 401-874-2168; email: caswellm@uri.edu |  | p: 401-874-2169; email: jenneya\_bennett@ uri.edu |

|  |
| --- |
| **First Star URI Academy Employment Application** |
| Name: |
| Home Address: | Street  | Apt#  | City  | State  | Zip |
| School Address: |
| Home Phone: | Cell Phone: | Email: |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Current Class Standing as of 9/2015:Junior  Senior  Grad Student  | Major(s):  | Minor(s): |
| Current GPA: | Have you ever been in the foster care system (circle one)? | Yes No |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| For which shift are you applying?  | 1st Shift  2nd Shift  Overnight  | *\*We will try to honor requests but it may be necessary to work the other shift depending upon those hired. Check both if it does not matter to you.* |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Employer/Site  | Position (List Responsibilities) | Date |
| 1. |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |
|  |  |  |

Please list any volunteer and/or paid work experience in the last three years (especially those working with children) below:

Please list any extracurricular activities you are involved in (include on or off campus):

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

List any interests or talents you have that you might share with the First Star Students:

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions:

1. What is your strongest academic subject? Why do you say this? (You will probably be asked to share your thoughts on this with the students.)
2. Why are you interested in becoming a mentor? What do you hope to learn and what skills do you wish to develop?
3. How will this position enhance your career goals?
4. What is one piece of advice you would give to a high school student regarding going to college?

 5.) Why should we hire you?

**First Star URI Academy Mentor Recommendation Form**

Before considering a First Star URI Academy Mentor applicant, we require a recommendation form from a professional who has taught, supervised, or worked closely with the prospective applicant. Thank you for completing this recommendation for this particular student.

The First Star URI Academy is in its fourth year at URI. It is part of a national network of programs that bring high school students who are in the state foster care system to a college campus for a month in the summer. The First Star teens are exposed to all that college has to offer: living in a dorm, eating in a dining hall, taking classes for credit, participating in recreational and enrichment activities and learning more about the college application process. Working for the Academy, mentors will be part of a groundbreaking program in which foster teens receive the academic guidance and support they need to reach college and achieve their dreams. Mentors will be assigned small groups of students. They will serve as role models for them while escorting them to scheduled classes and events, assisting them with homework, participating in recreation with them, and sharing their own experiences about going to college.

Please evaluate the prospective applicant and send it via email to: caswellm@uri.edu or mail to:

First Star URI Academy

M. Caswell

Tyler Hall, Suite 202

9 Greenhouse Rd.

Kingston, RI 02881

*If you have any questions regarding the program or this recommendation, you may contact the Administrative Director, Merry Caswell, at the above email address or at 401-874-2168.*

**First Star URI Academy Mentor Recommendation Form**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Applicant Name: |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| In what capacity and for how long have you known the applicant? |
|  |
|  |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Describe the applicant’s skills, qualities, and/or knowledge that would qualify him/her for a mentor position. |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

Please rate the applicant on the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ability to grasp new concepts | Excellent  | Good  | Adequate  | Poor  |
| Sense of responsibility | Excellent  | Good  | Adequate  | Poor  |
| Ability to follow directions | Excellent  | Good  | Adequate  | Poor  |
| Dependability | Excellent  | Good  | Adequate  | Poor  |

Do you recommend this applicant as a First Star URI Academy employee?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Highly  | Moderately  | Not Sure  |

|  |
| --- |
| Additional comments that speak to the capacity of this student to work with at-risk youth in foster care: |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**Thank you!**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Printed Name |  | Signature |
|  |  |  |
| Email |  | Phone Number |