

F.O.C.U.S.

Commonly Asked Questions and Answers

2011-2012

1. What does F.O.C.U.S. Stand for?

F.O.C.U.S is an acronym which stands for Finding Opportunities to Connect Undergraduates with Service.

2. What is F.O.C.U.S.?

FOCUS is a residential living-learning program designed for incoming first-year students who are passionate about service. The program gives students a chance to excel through service at ECU and throughout the Greenville Community.

3. What is the application process for the F.O.C.U.S. program?

The application process is quite simple. First, interested students must submit an on-line application found on the Campus Living website. The deadline to submit an application for the 2011-2012 F.O.C.U.S. program is May 1, 2011. Afterwards, the application is reviewed by the selection committee. Last, a phone interview is conducted between a member of the selection committee and the applicant.

4. What is the application deadline for the 2011-2012 F.O.C.U.S. program?

The deadline to submit an application for the 2010-2011 program is May 1, 2011.

5. When are applicants traditionally notified on whether or not they are accepted to the F.O.C.U.S. program?

This is a difficult question to answer as it depends on the number of applicants and number of phone interviews conducted. After applicants submit an application, a phone interview is scheduled. Applicants are notified of their acceptance following the phone interview.

6. Is there a residence requirement for 2011-2012 F.O.C.U.S. members?

As a FOCUS member, if you are accepted to the program, you are required to live in Jones Residence Hall. You have two housing options. One option is that you are able to request a roommate; however that individual must be either a member of F.O.C.U.S. or a member of the FX Program. Your second option is that you are paired with another member of the F.O.C.U.S. program.

7. Is there a service requirement for FOCUS members?

Yes. Each F.O.C.U.S member is required to complete at least 30 hours of service each semester. Members complete this by engaging in individual service and group projects. Many of our members go above this requirement and do a variety of service activities.

8. When can F.O.C.U.S. members move-in?

F.O.C.U.S. members will move-in to on-campus living several days prior to general campus move-in. These extra days are filled with service activities and a chance to get to know each other. Specific dates will be communicated after acceptance into the program.

9. What is the F.O.C.U.S. orientation program?

The F.O.C.U.S. orientation program is the scheduled activities required for members prior to general move-in. Specifics of the orientation program will be sent out during the summer

months (June – August). Past activities have included volunteering at the Food Bank, ice-cream social, low-ropes leadership challenge, the University Million Meal Event, and shopping trips.

10. Who are the F.O.C.U.S. peer leaders?

F.O.C.U.S. peer leaders are the upper-class students who provide support to the program. The peer leaders plan service projects, advise members, lead meetings, organize social events, and provide support to other programmatic needs. The peer leaders are supported by the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center as well as Campus Living. Through an application process, peer leaders are chosen in the spring semester prior.

11. What are the benefits of FOCUS?

FOCUS offers a unique chance for first-year students to become acquainted with the many service opportunities that ECU and the Greenville Community have to offer. Benefits of service include but are not limited to, career exploration, resume experience, working with people from diverse backgrounds, and hands-on learning about complex social issues. The Volunteer and Service-Learning Center offers this unique program in hopes of fulfilling the ever changing needs of in-coming students and addressing important community needs.

12. What do FOCUS members do after FOCUS?

Many F.O.C.U.S. members become very committed to service throughout their college career. Some students will become involved in other leadership opportunities with the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center. Other members become heavily involved in a community organization such as the American Red Cross, Pitt County Memorial Hospital, or the Little Willie Center. Finally, some F.O.C.U.S. members become involved with other campus leadership positions including Orientation Assistant, Resident Advisor, becoming involved with the Student Government Association, or serving on the leadership team of a student organization.

13. If I have additional questions, who can I contact?

If you have question pertaining to on-campus living, you can call Campus Living at 252-328-4663. If you have questions related to the F.O.C.U.S program or service opportunities, please call the Volunteer and Service-Learning Center at 252-328-2735.