

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Peer Education?

A peer is a person who is of equal standing with you in a group- such as other UT Tyler students. A Peer Educator is a trained student in a helping position who encourages healthy choices among his or her peers.

2. Why should I attend this summer retreat?

- Recognize and build on the leadership skills you already have
- Get comfortable with campus and make friends before school starts.
- Make a difference on campus and meet other students who want to do the same.
- Gain the opportunity of working with non-profit organizations that make a difference in the community
- Become nationally certified as a peer educator.
- Looks great on a resume.
- Join a group that has fun– responsibly.

- Peer Educators Make a Difference:
 1. Peer educators make healthier decisions than the general student population.
 2. Peer educators are effective in helping others make healthier choices by providing information, challenging incorrect attitudes, confronting unhealthy behavior, and referring students to professional help.
 3. Peer educators, because of their own healthy choices and willingness to talk about and role model them with others, help create positive social norms and the foundation of critical mass supporting health campus environments.
 4. Peer education is student leadership, activism, and service at its best. Putting the health and safety of others and the community on an equal value with personal health and safety is the “student development theory” that we hope all of our students achieve. (*The BACCHUS Network*)

3. What should I bring?

- Participants must bring all linens, pillows, towels, and personal items. Note: there are coin-operated laundry facilities on the first floor; we do not provide linen service.
- Casual clothes. Be prepared to travel to different places around campus. Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing for being outside at times. It would be wise to wear layers as some areas will be cooler than others.
- Swimsuit (not required)

4. Do I need to attend all the activities that are part of the retreat?

Yes. In order to create a close group of student peer educators who are trained to begin working with programs during the fall semester, you must attend all of the retreat.

5. Will I have time to go off campus and explore the Tyler area?

Not during the retreat. There will be plenty of activities to keep you busy on campus. If you wish to explore the Tyler area, it would be wise to come to town a day early or plan on spending time doing this after the retreat on Sunday.

6. What if I am from out of town and can't drive in Friday morning?

Some rooms on campus may be available Thursday night for special circumstances with an additional fee. Please contact Kimberly Harvey-Livingston, 903-566-7197 or Kim_Harvey-Livingston@uttyler.edu to make arrangements.

7. Who do I contact for accommodations for a disability or a special menu?

Please contact Kimberly Harvey-Livingston, 903-566-7197 or Kim_Harvey-Livingston@uttyler.edu if you need any special accommodations.