

Student Accessibility Champion

Co-Curricular Record (CCR) Position Description

The [READ Initiative](#) at Carleton University is seeking students from the undergraduate and graduate level to become **Student Accessibility Champions** and play an integral role in the ongoing conversations, activities and initiatives related to accessibility across campus (and support the implementation of Carleton's Coordinated Accessibility Strategy (CAS)).

Eligibility

Seeking one undergraduate and one graduate student from any degree program at Carleton University that is enrolled in either a full-time or part-time capacity. Eligible students will:

- Demonstrate a strong interest and/or level of engagement in, supporting and enhancing accessibility across campus (preferred) and/or throughout the Ottawa (or other) community. Involvement in campus activities may include, but is not limited to: involvement with Carleton Disability Awareness Centre (CDAC), Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC), Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) and/or any READ Initiative activities including the CAS, Canadian Accessibility Network (CAN), and Enable Ottawa.
- have (or not have) lived/living experience with disability as well as intersectionality of social constructs such as ability, culture, gender, or ethnoracial identities. Recruitment of champions is anchored in “nothing without us”. It is also important to build opportunities for allyship. *As such, students with no direct lived/living experience are asked to demonstrate a working knowledge of disability, accessibility, and related issues.*

Term

A Student Accessibility Champion may occupy this role for one term and up to a maximum of three consecutive terms (Fall, Winter, Summer) in an academic year, with the option of being re-appointed for an additional academic year.

Compensation

Student Accessibility Champions will receive compensation of \$750 per student, per term to a maximum of \$2,250 per academic year (up to three terms – summer, fall, winter). The funds will be distributed in the last month of the term that the student is appointed for.

Recognition

In addition to receiving compensation in the amount of \$750/term, each student will have the opportunity be recognized for their contributions through Carleton's [Co-Curricular Record](#). In addition, they will receive a certificate of participation from the READ Initiative, along with a written letter of reference.

Leadership Role

Student Accessibility Champion positions are volunteer leadership roles that are recognized through the Carleton Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Appointed students will be expected to engage in a minimum number of hours of work, as per the CCR requirements. They will also be appointed a mentor from within the READ Initiative to guide them through this experience. Activities may include but are not limited to:

- holding a seat on the Coordination and Leadership group which takes place for approximately 1 hour each month, 4 times per term (8 hours approximately);
- blogging about experiences as an Accessibility Champion, and/or contributing to the work of the READ Initiative, specifically the CAS Lead or other designates, as it relates to the work of the CAS Council, per term (2-4 hours approximately);
- taking a leadership role in engaging with Carleton University student government to inform and engage other students about the importance of accessibility and awareness of the various activities of CAS; and
- contributing to, informing and/or participating in presentations, training opportunities and recruitment activities within the greater Carleton community about the activities of CAS.

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are used to build skills and areas for personal growth. A Student Accessibility Champion can expect the following learning outcomes from their experience:

- Build their skills in allyship through initiating important conversations within the Carleton community surrounding accessibility/access/accommodations.
- Develop a strong working knowledge of the current initiatives that support the Carleton Community and the current plans of implementation/projects/activities that are going on which can further be tapped into when supporting the Carleton Community
- Strengthen collaboration skills as they work directly with the awesome members of the READ and CAS teams.
- Hone presentation skills through participation in events and presentations on, or about, accessibility.
- Experience in playing a pivotal role in inspiring passion/awareness/excitement to peers within the Carleton Community.
- Utilize and strengthen critical thinking skills as initiatives, plans, projects, etc. are tabled/ideated/worked out.
- Personal leadership and communication skills.

Accommodations

Accommodations will be provided as needed, including but not limited to:

- access to assistive technology and software to support disabilities related to executive function/focus/learning disabilities/motor skills (e.g., Read/Write, Pomodoro, Dragon, JAWS)
- could also include visual magnification software, transcription tools to capture conversations, etc.
- closed captioning or ASL interpreters.

How to Apply

Send your resume along with a short email/cover letter stating why you're interested in this opportunity and what you'll bring to the position to read.initiative@carleton.ca. We will keep posting open until positions are filled and will review applications as they come in. We are looking to have Champions in place before the end of September 2022.