

Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement



2016 INFORMATION

AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE ACHIEVEMENT INITIATIVE

The Southern University and A & M College System established the Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement (CUSA) to reverse the trend of fewer African American males graduating from college while also increasing the number of black male classroom teachers. A 5th cohort of male 2016 New Orleans area high school graduates is being recruited for the initiative that provides them added support and resources to complete their college education at the Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) campus, and to become certified classroom teachers.



THE HONORÉ CENTER PROGRAM – Meeting the Challenge

The initiative is named after Lt. General Russel Honoré (USArmy, Retired) a Southern University alumnus, military hero, and expert on leadership development. Students are recruited for the program who demonstrate academic success and leadership potential along with the motivation to make a difference in their communities as certified classroom teachers (minimum two years.) Upon successful completion of a summer preparation program, the Honoré scholar joins our community at SUNO in a holistic living & learning environment. Full support including campus housing and meal plan, personal computer, a monthly \$100 stipend plus a \$500 textbook voucher per semester is provided for the first two years along with personal and group counseling, life skills and tutoring resources to help ensure his academic and personal success. After completing the first two years, that support remains in place for up to 5 years except that his full housing support is graduated and based upon his continued academic performance and program compliance.

Curricular and co-curricular activities and expectations are structured into the living & learning community. Each student signs a contract governing his expectations and the benefits provided, along with a promissory note agreeing that a portion of the financial support he receives is considered a forgivable loan until he fulfills his obligations to the program. He pledges to complete an undergraduate degree at SUNO within five years majoring in Education or another approved content area (Biology, General Studies, English, History, Math, Psychology, etc.)

If he selects another discipline he will complete at least (15) credit hours in Elementary or Early Childhood Education course content, also pass the Praxis-I exam in preparation for enrolling into the SUNO postgraduate teaching certification program once he receives his bachelors degree. Furthermore a graduating Honoré student with a B.S. in a S.T.E.M. discipline may elect instead to pursue a Master's degree, in which case the 2-year classroom teaching obligation would be delayed if requested. All financial support provided by the System is forgiven after the Honoré student completes the 2-year teaching requirement at a New Orleans area school plus teacher certification.

2016 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum ACT composite score* of 20 as per Board of Regents eligibility guidelines.
- Completion of the Regents' Core curriculum with minimum 2.5 GPA overall and core; high school transcript required.
- Pell Grant eligible: the student must qualify for at least 80% of annual Pell Grant award, plus be prepared to cover any gap in his EFC (expected family contribution) amount.
- Applicant attends campus essay-writing activity to explain why he should be selected.
- Recommendation letters from (2) high school teachers.
- Recommendation letter by an adult who knows the candidate outside the classroom (coach, minister, employer?)
- Videotaped finalist interview with Honoré CUSA selection committee, requiring the candidate plus at least one parent or legal guardian.
- Criminal Background Check & Drug Screening required of all final candidates

* NOTES: Applicants with an ACT composite score below 20 would be required to achieve eligibility for SUNO admission by Fall 2016 after completing a summer bridge curriculum at SUNO if mandated by his scores. All candidates for the Honoré Center program must apply separately for admission online at www.SUNO.edu for eligibility verification, plus they must have FAFSA information sent to Southern University at New Orleans.

SEVEN DESIRABLE TRAITS

Candidates accepted into the Honoré CUSA program pledge to exemplify these seven desirable traits of all Honoré Scholars:

1. Considerate
2. Disciplined
3. Ethical
4. Persistent
5. Punctual
6. Self-Aware
7. Servant Leader



Katrina-10 Day of Service 8-29-2015: Honoré CUSA cohort members from SUNO help to clear an abandoned lot in a nearby subdivision as part of a Citywide Day of Service on the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

APPLICATION FORM – Must Print Neatly & Legibly

HONORÉ CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Planned Entry Date: FALL - 20 16

APPLICANT:

(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Social Security Number Age Date of Birth

Home or Mailing Address City State Zip Code

Student E-mail Address Student Home Telephone Student Cell Telephone

High School: _____ Completion date: _____

ACT Composite Score: _____ Expected GPA: _____

High school counselor name + contact #:

Parent/Legal Guardian Name Parent/Guardian Contact Info (E-mail + Mobile phone # please)

Parent/Guardian Mailing Address (if different from student):

Street Address City State Zip Code

Awards/Extracurricular Activities: _____

Can you verify family income level (Circle one)? **Yes / No** HOW? _____

STUDENT ESSAY: Tell us about yourself and why you believe you are the right candidate for the Honoré Center program. Essay must be neatly formatted and printed in Times New Roman (12 pt) font at a minimum of 450 words. Your application is not eligible for consideration until the essay and all required materials have been submitted.

In addition to submitting the materials required for acceptance into the Honoré Center program at the above campus address, a candidate must apply to SUNO for general admission: www.suno.edu. Applicant should also make sure his completed FAFSA report is sent to Southern University at New Orleans.

NOTE: Besides applying to SUNO, the completed Honoré Center application form with all required supporting materials included must be delivered in person to the Honoré Center offices at SUNO North (Lake) campus, Room 315. Call first at #504-286-5107 for directions and application submission times.

Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement
APPLICATION SUBMISSION and ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

***** CHECKLIST *****

I am providing the following documents with this form:

- _____ Evidence of family income [Last IRS return? ____ FAFSA filing? ____]
- _____ Copy of ACT test score(s)
- _____ Latest available high school transcript with cumulative GPA indicated
- _____ Recommendation Letter by a current high school teacher
- _____ Recommendation Letter by a (2nd) current high school teacher
- _____ Recommendation Letter from someone familiar with candidate outside the classroom (coach, minister, employer or youth group supervisor?)
- _____ Credible 450-word (minimum) essay outlining why candidate should be selected, must be neatly formatted and printed with correct grammar and spelling.

***** ACKNOWLEDGMENT *****

By signing below, I agree to the following:

- I will be available, if selected among the successful finalists, for an interview in-person with the Honoré CUSA-SUNO 2016 selection committee at the SUNO campus, and that I will bring at least one parent or legal guardian for the interview process. Interview will be recorded for review.
- I agree to allow for a Criminal Background Check & Drug Screening before final admission into the program, as required of all Honoré CUSA finalists, and I understand that any information received will be kept in strictest confidence and will not necessarily prevent my acceptance into the program.
- I hereby grant permission to my high school to provide the Honoré CUSA administrator with copies of any IEP records, disciplinary records, special needs documentation, etc. on file at my high school.

MUST BE SUBMITTED & SIGNED IN PERSON:

Applicant Signature: _____

Printed Legal Name: _____

Social Security # _____ Date of Birth: _____

High School: _____

Received by Honoré CUSA staff: _____ Date: _____

The Honoré Center at SUNO

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