

Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement



The Honoré Center at SUNO
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AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE ACHIEVEMENT INITIATIVE

The Southern University and A & M College System established the Honoré Center for Undergraduate Student Achievement (CUSA) with funding from the State of Louisiana and other sources to reverse the trend of fewer African American males graduating from college while also increasing the number of male classroom teachers in urban settings. New Orleans area high school graduates will be 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 effective classroom teachers.

THE HONORÉ CENTER PROGRAM – Meeting the Challenge

The initiative is named after Lt. Gen. Russel L. Honoré, a Southern University alumnus, military hero, and expert on leadership development. Students with leadership potential and the motivation to make a difference in their communities, despite having ACT scores and GPA that may not qualify them for four-year university admission, are selected for the program. Upon successful completion of a summer preparation program that may include developmental course work in Math and/or English, Honoré scholars are provided campus housing at SUNO in a holistic living & learning environment. Additional support includes a personal computer, campus meal plan, a monthly \$100 stipend plus a \$500 textbook voucher per semester for up to five years. Personal counselling, life skills and tutoring resources are also incorporated to help ensure their academic and personal success. After completing the first two years, that support continues but on a graduated scale based upon his continued academic performance and program participation.

Curricular and co-curricular activities and expectations are rigorous and structured into the living & learning community. Each student signs a contract governing his expectations and 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. If selecting another discipline, he is still expected to complete at least (12) credit hours in Elementary or Early Childhood Education course content, then enroll in an alternate teaching certification program after graduation. However, a graduating Honoré student with a B.S. in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Math disciplines (S.T.E.M.) may elect to pursue a Master's degree, in which case the two-year classroom teaching obligation will be waived. All financial support provided by the System is forgiven after the Honoré student completes classroom certification and the two-year teaching requirement at an approved New Orleans area school.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Pell Grant eligible: the student must qualify for at least 80% of annual Pell Grant award.
- ACT (English/Math) scores in 16-20 range per Board of Regents conditional guidelines.
- Completion of the Regents' Core with a minimum overall and core GPA of 2.0; high school transcript required.
- Credible 450-word essay outlining why the applicant 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, involving the candidate plus at least one parent or legal guardian.
- Criminal Background Check & Drug Screening required of all final candidates.

SEVEN DESIRABLE TRAITS

Candidates accepted into the Honoré CUSA program pledge to conduct themselves honorably, and 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



Hurricane Season pandemic Day of Service: Honoré CUSA cohort members from SUNO help to fill sandbags for residents in the city of New Orleans.

NOTE: Candidates for the Honoré Center program must apply for regular college admission online at www.SUNO.edu for eligibility verification, plus they must have FAFSA information sent to Southern University at New Orleans. Candidates are expected to gain eligibility for conditional SUNO admission through ACT scores or after completing a summer bridge curriculum at SUNO.

APPLICATION FORM – Must Print Neatly & Legibly

HONORÉ CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (Honoré CUSA)

Planned Entry Date: FALL - 20__

Student Name:

(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 (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 online for general admission at: www.sunou.edu. Applicant should also make sure his completed FAFSA report is sent to Southern University at New Orleans.

NOTE: Besides applying online to SUNO, the completed Honoré application form with all required supporting materials included must be delivered in person to the Honoré Center offices at the SUNO North (Lake) campus, located above Leon C. Simon Drive, Room 111. Call 504-286-5136 first for directions and application submission times. Extended deadline for applications is July 31st but late applicants will be considered.

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: _____