

Sustainable Living Eco-Stewardship (SLE) Program: Agreement 2019-2020

Living within the SLE Program entails responsibilities corresponding with the Ramapo College's mission to promote Sustainability on campus. This residential program requires all participants live a sustainable lifestyle, and take the role of Eco-Stewards on campus. While SLE is a great opportunity for students to grow a sustainable campus, enhance their resume, and grow personally through leadership and service, there are requirements and expectations placed upon each SLE student.

Requirements:

1. Academic Requirement: SLE's is a complete service-learning program, and, as such, does not require students to register in a course. However, students who join SLE for the first time are required to enroll in a **1 unit Independent Study course** for service learning with SLE faculty. Returning SLE students do not need to take the Independent Study, but are required to complete all SLE requirements.

2. Eco-Stewardship Requirement: SLE students will commit to **40 hours of ecological stewardship** work through the academic year, about 20 hours a semester.

Ecological leadership work will involve engagement with RAs and also student club leaders to promote campus sustainability. Service opportunities may include: ResLife Recycling liaison to the Student Recycling Crew (collect data on volume of recyclables, promote compliance across Residences), Liaise with and participate actively in: ISTEP, Ramapo Green, SGA, ResLife, etc.; or work in the Organic Gardens (SEC and Redwood CPA).

3. Sustainability Event Requirement: SLE students will attend, whenever possible, **sustainability events on campus—at least 5 events each year.**

4. Sustainable Living Requirement: SLE students will be expected to **complete the Ramapo Green Sustainability Pledge** and to keep a journal of individual sustainability initiatives. This is geared toward living a green life and to encourages students to reduce their ecological footprint.

Examples of actions which students are expected to undertake include:

- 100% recycling compliance (commingled, paper, cardboard, batteries, CFLs, etc.)
- promote indoor air quality and limit environmental degradation by using 'green' cleaning supplies
- make sustainable food choices
- reduce their personal carbon footprint
 - take fewer single-occupancy car trips – carpool, combine trips
 - use mass transit
 - conserve energy (electricity, heat) and water

5. Be a part of SLE governance and also, take turns to represent SLE in the President's Committee on Campus Sustainability (PCCS) and Res Life. (These meetings dates will be communicated to participants in advance and conflicts with class schedule will be accommodated.)
6. SLE students are required to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5.
7. SLE students are required to be in good judicial standing at the College.
8. SLE requires a **one year commitment** to the program.
9. SLE students will abide by College Policies and Procedures as outlined in the Guide to Community Living and the Student Handbook.

10. Residential Expectation: SLE students will be active members in the Residential community on campus and are encouraged to participate in the Residence Hall Association.

11. Consequences: SLE student progress both in and outside of the classroom will be monitored in order to ensure appropriate progress is made in the program, both academically and residentially. Students who do not abide by the requirements and expectations set forth in this agreement and/or are found not supporting sustainable living, or intentionally breaching the sustainable lifestyle requirement, may be subject to removal of the SLE program; this includes being administratively moved to an available on-campus vacancy at any time.

Agreement:

I _____ acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Sustainable Living Eco-Stewardship (SLE) Program Requirements and Expectations, the Ramapo Green Pledge, and by this Agreement

Signature: _____

Date: _____