

Sustainable Living Eco-Stewardship (SLE) Agreement 2022-2023

Living in SLE entails responsibilities corresponding with the Ramapo College's mission to promote Sustainability on campus. This residential program requires to live a sustainable lifestyle and be Eco-Stewards on campus. While SLE is a great opportunity for students to support a sustainable campus, enhance their resume, and grow personally through leadership and service, there are requirements and expectations that each SLE student is responsible for.

Requirements:

1. Academic Requirement: Academic Requirement: SLE is a complete service learning program and hence, requires students to register in two 1 unit Independent Study courses for service learning with SLE faculty.

These will take the form of:

Independent Study on Sustainable Living (Fall Semester). This section will focus on: a Reading Seminar, community building, and reducing ecological footprint.

Independent Study on Eco-Stewardship (Spring Semester). This section will focus on building a project to raise awareness about ways of reducing our ecological impact.

2. Eco-Stewardship Requirement: Eco-Stewardship Requirement: Students will commit to one hour of weekly meetings (on Wednesday evenings, from 5 to 6 pm, based on consensus), 40 hours of community service throughout the academic year, about 20 hours a semester. Ecological leadership work will involve engagement with RA and also student club leaders to promote campus sustainability.

Service opportunities may include: Help maintain the vegetable garden and grow your own food, Help develop and maintain a student composting program on campus, Explore ways to connect with the local farmers market, Support the establishment of the Fair Trade Program on campus, ResLife Recycling liaison to Student Recycling Crew (collect data on volume of recyclables, encourage compliance across Residences), Liaison with Ramapo Green, 1STEP, SGA Sustainability Committee, ResLife, etc.

3. Students will also be **expected to be attend sustainability events** on campus.

4. **Sustainable Living Requirement:** As SLE Program participants, students will be expected to take a leadership role as well as abide by the Ramapo Green Sustainability Pledge. This is geared toward inculcating a green life style and to encourage students to

reduce their footprint on campus.

Examples of actions which students are expected to undertake include:

- Grow your own food
- Make sustainable food choices, such as buying locally
- Compost your food scraps
- 100% recycling compliance (paper, cardboard, metal, glass, etc.)
- Improve indoor air quality and limit environmental degradation by using ‘green’ cleaning supplies
- Reduce personal carbon footprint
- By taking fewer single-occupancy car trips – carpool; combine trips
- By using public transit
- By conserving 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 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.

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

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

Consequences:

If a SLE student is not following the guidelines set forth in this agreement (academically and residentially) they would need to leave the assigned housing assignment by

withdrawing from housing or by being administratively moved to another available on-campus vacancy outside SLE at any time.

Agreement:

I _____ acknowledge that I read, understand and agree with the following: Sustainable Living Eco-Stewardship (SLE) Requirements, Expectations, Pledge and Agreement

Signature: _____

Document signed: 2/15/2017