

**COTTEY COLLEGE**  
**PEER EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (PEP)**  
**PEER LISTENER**

**DESCRIPTION:** In addition to our professional counselors, peer listeners are available through the Peer Empowerment Program (PEP). Peer listeners are students who are carefully selected and trained, and have volunteered to help their fellow students with problems. Members listen open-mindedly, assist students in sorting out issues and make referrals when appropriate. Peer listeners will not tell you what to do, but they can help you decide on a course of action. Peer assistance is *private* and *confidential*. The peer listener reports to the coordinator of counseling. Services are free and listeners are available to talk about any subject, from school and studying, to suite conflicts, roommate issues, and eating disorders. Peer listeners will present programs for students in each hall.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Any full-time student in good academic and social standing.
2. Grade point average of 2.75 or higher.
3. Have the desire to help fellow students.
4. Must have 11 a.m. on Tuesdays open for group meeting with coordinator of counseling.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Complete a minimum of 20-30 hours of training.
2. Commit to two semesters as a peer listener.
3. Participate in a one-hour session per week with the counseling supervisor and serve an anticipated average of four hours per week.
4. Be available to participate in spring training session(s) and return to campus one week before school resumes in the fall.

**ROLES:**

1. Provide confidential listening skills to fellow students.
2. Help reduce anxiety; contribute to an early sense of belonging.
3. Help students become acquainted with one another.
4. Provide essential information about college life and college expectations.
5. Encourage open discussion of questions and concerns.
6. Create positive expectations for personal and intellectual growth.
7. Be a model for self-respect, be considerate of others and be appreciative of the differences in students.
8. Continue to grow as a campus citizen and peer listener, offering appropriate support and referral information to those who can benefit from it.
9. Lead and co-lead peer education workshops on various topics of interest to Cottey students.
10. Provide conflict mediation.
11. Plan and participate in student led programming in the halls.

**SELECTION PROCESS:**

1. If interested, please complete the application located on back of this sheet and return to the Counseling Office in the Student Life Center. Applications are due back by 5 p.m., on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.
2. Applicants meeting the GPA requirement will be selected for interviews to be held Tuesday, February 3, Friday, February 6, Tuesday, February 10, and Wednesday, February 11.

COTTEY COLLEGE APPLICATION  
FOR PEER LISTENER  
PEER EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (PEP)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hall: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Extension or Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Next Year's Hall and Suite: \_\_\_\_\_

Fall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ The GPA requirement for a peer listener is 2.75 or higher. The GPA requirement is checked before interviews and at the end of the semester. I authorize the PEP sponsor to verify my GPA.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

If you need more space to respond - please feel free to attach additional information.

1. Have you had any previous experience that pertains to this position? (Peer education in high school, summer camps, etc.) Explain.
  
2. List the campus organizations to which you belong. (This year and next.)
  
3. Are you a volunteer for any other programs or organizations? (On- or off-campus.)
  
4. How do you think others would describe your personality?
  
5. Do you plan on having a job next year? (On- or off-campus.) If so, how many hours do you plan to work?
  
6. Would you be willing to change halls to be a peer listener?
  
7. Please list two professional references from Cottey. (Faculty member, Cottey staff member, or Cottey job supervisor.)

Thank you for your interest in the Peer Empowerment Program (PEP). Applications are due in the Counseling Office or to Shaun West by 5 p.m., on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.