



Monash Student Communities Adviser

ORGANISATIONAL UNIT	Monash Student Communities
PORTFOLIO	Student Experience
ROLE TYPE	Volunteer

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

The Monash Student Communities program comprises of eight Colleges across the Caulfield, Clayton, Parkville and Peninsula campuses, with 250 members in each College. College Coordinators oversee and organise the college's social and recreational programs and activities, and mentor the advisers.

The Monash Student Communities provide structured guidance and support through dedicated support teams and sets out to provide and develop communities within Monash University that:

1. Provides care, peer support and enrichment for Monash students in cultural, social and recreational matters
2. Design and deliver events that facilitate friendships between students from different social backgrounds and course disciplines
3. Contribute to student personal and professional development by creating an environment of learning and self-knowledge
4. Recognises and values inclusion (e.g. nationalities, beliefs, abilities, faith, values, etc) through community building initiatives and leadership training
5. Deepens the learning experience of each student by encouraging them to actively engage with the university through study, sport and other extracurricular activities
6. Provide referral pathways for students requiring specialised support from other areas in the university

POSITION PURPOSE

Advisers provide a community and pastoral role that demonstrates a strong commitment to actively enrich and promote community life within the Monash Student Communities. An adviser is assigned up to 15 members (who are mainly first year students) to guide and support through College and University life, and foster social connections.

Reporting Line: Report directly to the College Coordinator.

EXPECTATIONS OF AN ADVISER

The Monash Student Communities Adviser is typically a member in the higher-years of study. The role is for 12 months, running from January to December. During this time, advisers volunteer for approximately 10 hours a fortnight.

The expectations set out below are to be fulfilled in collaboration with, and with support of, the Coordinators of each college.

1. Community Environment

- Advisers hold a defined and official position of leadership within the College, and as such their behaviour must be professional and their interpersonal relationships must be respectful
- Help college members develop an inclusive community
- Be aware of attitudes and behaviour patterns of the members in their cluster and refer any issues onto the College Coordinator
- Have an understanding of resources and support services available to Monash Student Communities members and support members to seek help if needed
- Respect student privacy and disclose critical information only to the coordinator or senior staff (where relevant)

2. Community Development

- Participate in Monash Student Communities training and development opportunities
- Assist with and participate College events and Monash Student Communities wide events
- Maintain effective relations with collegians and resolve problems that may arise between collegians in a constructive and fair manner
- Be involved in Semester 1 and Semester 2 Orientation and member recruitment activities
- Provide feedback to Advisers on how the college experience can be improved
- Complete Monash Student Communities program evaluation surveys

3. Monash Student Communities member clusters

- Organise two cluster activities each semester
- Be willing to share knowledge and your own university experiences
- Provide mentoring and support for cluster members
- Ensure that college cluster members are aware of upcoming Monash Student Communities events and encourage members to participate in Monash Student Communities activities
- Check in with cluster members individually to identify their needs, offer support and refer them to the appropriate support services as needed

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

To be eligible, you must:

- have completed at least 24 credit points of a Monash degree, with a grade point average (GPA) of two (credit average) or higher
- currently be enrolled at a campus with a Monash Student Community (Caulfield, Clayton, Parkville or Peninsula)
- be able to commit for a full year, from January to December (students graduating mid-year are not eligible to apply)
- be able to attend a minimum of six college events (day and evening) each semester
- be available on the scheduled training dates and during February enrolment and orientation periods.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Monash Student Communities Advisers are required to hold a current Obtaining a Victorian Working with Children Check (volunteer)
- Complete accredited Mental Health First Aid Training (where possible) offered by the Monash Student Communities Program
- Some Monash Student Communities activities are held at night.

REWARDS

The position of an Adviser provides the opportunity to:

- Be part of a community and to lead, foster and nurture that community
- Assist new member's transition to campus-life through sharing your own experiences
- Develop your skills in teamwork, planning and organising, interpersonal communication and leadership
- Gain new perspectives on a diverse range of issues through working in a team and with students from diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Participate in professional development opportunities

Know you can 'make a difference'.