



## Florida Alternative Breaks

### 2009-2010 Weekend Site Leader Application

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**Website: <http://www.leadershipandservice.ufl.edu/studentorgs/fab/>**

#### **Vision Statement**

Florida Alternative Breaks' vision is to create active citizens through a year-long commitment to community service, leadership and social change.

#### **Mission Statement**

Through education, service, and reflection, Florida Alternative Breaks provides members the opportunity to immerse themselves in a particular social issue. We seek to heighten social awareness through regional and international trips during academic breaks. With the passion, knowledge, and relationships gained from their experiences, members will become life-long advocates for social justice in their communities.

#### **The Role of the Site Leader**

**“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”**

**- John Quincy Adams**

The Florida Alternative Breaks (FAB) Site Leader position is a time-intensive, demanding, and rewarding enterprise. Site Leaders prepare throughout the semester in order to lead their trip over academic breaks, and FAB is certain to become a very personal and integral part of one's collegiate experience. We hold our Site Leaders to high standards and seek dedicated individuals who will delve into their issue and emerge as well-rounded and educated leaders who are ready to take their community service experience to a new level and become active citizens. Each individual will be paired up with a co-Site Leader and matched with a specified trip and issue.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: For the Weekend Trip Site Leaders, preference will be given to applicants with previous FAB Site Leader experience**

The responsibilities of the site leaders are:

- Maintaining contact with their service and housing sites
- Designing a trip itinerary
- Selecting participants and leading regular participant meetings
- Educating their participants and the public about their social issue
- Keeping their adopt-a-board updated on all progress
- Plan a pre and post-trip service project in the local community
- Consistent and timely communication between co-Site Leaders, the FAB board, and trip participants
- Attend weekly Site Leader meetings
- Complete First Aid/CPR Certification
- Responsible for coordination of van training of 3 drivers
- Attend all FAB events, fundraisers and socials including FAB Orientation and Reorientation
- Assist in participant recruitment and take part in participant information sessions
- Participate actively in FAB Wide fundraisers throughout the year
- Meet with your co-leader twice a week; 1 hour required in the CLS

Site leaders are encouraged to perform community service throughout the year and continue their dedication to FAB and community service. An integral component of FAB is our role within the Center for Leadership and Service. As active members of the CLS, FAB Site Leaders will be expected to familiarize themselves with the other branches of the CLS and participate in CLS events when possible.

During winter break, Site Leaders are responsible for making sure that everything runs smoothly, addressing and dealing with participant concerns, leading daily reflections, maintaining a budget, delegating tasks, and doing their best to ensure that everyone has a successful and meaningful experience.

All students applying to become a Site Leader must be enrolled as a full-time student. They must also maintain a cumulative and term GPA of 2.5 for the duration of their participation with FAB. Grade checks are completed at the time of application and at the beginning of each semester. Students who fail to maintain the minimum GPA will not be allowed to participate in FAB.

## **Issue Descriptions**

### **Children's Healthcare**

Seven percent of children in the United States have limited activity due to chronic health conditions according to the Department of Health. Children with chronic health conditions may experience limitations in some activities; frequent pain or discomfort; abnormal growth and development; and more hospitalizations, outpatient visits, and medical treatments. Numerous non-profits have collaborated with the Make a Wish Foundation to help children coping with chronic, sometimes terminal health problems. This issue focuses on education and service surrounding the healthcare world of children. Service may include volunteering with a non-profit that works with sick children, doing a variety of activities with the children and their families.

### **Environmental Preservation**

Deforestation, unclean drinking water, habitat loss and destruction, pollution, and species extinction are just a few of the environmental challenges that this planet is facing. Conservation is the "careful utilization of a natural resource to prevent depletion", and preservation is "to keep alive or in existence". Both of these actions are part of a larger movement for people to live more sustainably and less destructively in the world. Trip service *may* include environmental cleanup, species surveying, environmental education, or garden maintenance.

### **Migrant Rights**

Migrant worker is a term commonly used to describe low-paid laborers that often work in agriculture. These people frequently are not officially employed and have no visa. As such, they often are not given the basic rights they are entitled to, being forced to work extended hours with less pay. Migrant workers rarely have their voices heard from fear of losing their less than reliable job or being deported if they are an immigrant. Service for this issue may include working with an advocacy organization for migrant workers, learning about the challenges these laborers face, and assisting with the cleanup of local facility for the children of migrant workers.

### **Trip Costs**

The cost of trips is all-inclusive, going toward all food, transportation and housing for the week. This cost is not dependent on the issue and is estimated to be between \$75-\$125. There is a potential for lower trip costs with successful fundraising.

This year, FAB is kicking off an ambitious fundraising initiative to lower the cost of trips for all participants. All Site Leaders will be expected to participate in general FAB fundraising, including the Spaghetti Lunch and letter-writing campaign. Those who meet the minimum requirements of FAB wide fundraising will have the cost of their CPR training waived.

### **Payment Information**

Site Leaders and Participants will be responsible for submitting their payments by the stated deadline. A non-refundable \$50 deposit will be due **November 4<sup>th</sup>** to the CLS at Peabody Hall. The remaining balance is due **November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please make checks payable to the University of Florida. Failure to make payment by the stated deadline may result in dismissal from the program. If you would like to set up a payment plan, you must submit a request to FAB's Graduate Advisor, Nikole Duvalle, [nikoled@leadershipandservice.ufl.edu](mailto:nikoled@leadershipandservice.ufl.edu) or 352-392-1261 ext. 229, no later than 7 days prior to the stated deadline. All requests for extensions must be submitted in writing and include your name, FAB trip, the reason(s) you believe you need an extension, and the date that you expect to be able to make your payment. There is no guarantee that your request for an extension will be granted.

No refunds will be made, except for emergency situations such as serious illness or death in the family. All requests for refunds must be submitted to and approved by the Director of the CLS within 48 hours of your decision to leave FAB. All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing and include your name, FAB trip, and the reason(s) you believe you need a refund. There will be no refunds for any student dismissed from the program for reasons of misconduct or for failure to comply with University of Florida and/or FAB policies, procedures, and regulations.

### **Scholarship Information**

FAB may award a limited number of partial scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need. Scholarship priorities are given to domestic trips. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please contact FAB's Treasurer, Rebeca Rodriguez-Crespo, at [rrcrespo@ufl.edu](mailto:rrcrespo@ufl.edu) or at 321-202-3976. Scholarship applications are due **October 21<sup>st</sup>**.

### **Summary of Important Dates (\*attendance required at all events)**

- Wed. 8 pm-9:30pm: Weekly Site Leader Training Meetings (beginning Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>)
- September 30: Site Leader applications due by 4:00pm
- October 4: Site Leader Group interviews  
(4pm-6pm Reitz Union Room 287)
- Oct. 5-Oct. 9: Site Leader interviews
- October 21: Participant Applications due by 4:00pm
- October 21: Scholarship Applications Due
- October 23 – 24: Site Leader Retreat
- November 4: \$100 deposit for winter trips due
- November 4: Orientation
- November 19: Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser
- November 23: Final weekend trip payments due
- TBA: Weekend Crash Course
- January 15 – 18<sup>th</sup>: Weekend Trip
- TBA: Reorientation

**Essay Question-Please limit your response to one page.**

- 1) What previous FAB (or other leadership) experience have you had that will contribute to your success as a site leader?
- 2) What social issues are you passionate about and how do those relate to your top issue choice?
- 3) Describe your leadership style and the role you assume in a group. Also, in a partnership, what are your strengths and what would you expect from a partner?

**Letter of Recommendation**

Please submit, along with your application, a recommendation letter from a peer, professor or advisor detailing your leadership experience and any other qualities that would contribute to your success as a FAB site leader. Freshman applicants may use a referral from high school as their letter. **If you have difficulties obtaining a letter of recommendation, please contact Nikole Duvalle (nikoled@leadershipandservice.ufl.edu), FAB's Graduate Advisor.**

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

UF strives to provide effective, reasonable accommodations for students. Please contact Nikole Duvalle (nikoled@leadershipandservice.ufl.edu) to discuss any needed accommodations.

# Florida Alternative Breaks 2009-2010 Weekend Site Leader Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ UF ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Expected date of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnicity (optional)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Weekend Issues (Please rank your choices 1=highest choice 3=lowest choice)**

Children's Healthcare \_\_\_\_\_ Environmental Preservation \_\_\_\_\_ Migrant Rights \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you been on a FAB trip in the past?** Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, what trip? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check here if you are willing to be considered as:**

an Alternate Site Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

a weekend participant in the event that you are not selected as a Site Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

**Where did you hear about FAB?**

(Alligator, tabling, email, through a friend, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you:**

\_\_\_\_\_ currently CPR/First Aid certified?

**\*Please attach any copies of certification to this application**

**Want us to tell somebody about FAB? Put their name and email here:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My signature below authorizes an official check of my university records to ensure that I am a full-time student in good academic and disciplinary standing. It also certifies that I have read, understood, and agreed to the terms and conditions stated in the application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ By checking here, I agree to allow Florida Alternative Breaks to use my FAB related pictures for professional activities unless I otherwise inform them in writing. (Pictures may be used on the internet for the FAB website)

Please turn this application in along with your answers to the essay questions and candidate recommendation form by **September 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm** to the Center for Leadership and Service, 202 Peabody Hall. **Personal interviews will be held October 5-October 9, please sign up for an interview** time when you turn in your application. Mandatory group interviews will be held **October 4<sup>th</sup>**. Please note the time and place of your interview when signing-up. Thanks for your interest!! For any additional information or questions you may have, please contact the Site Leader Trainer, Alex Handfinger, at [ahandy@ufl.edu](mailto:ahandy@ufl.edu).

\*Used for demographic purposes and will not adversely affect placement