Do you love UNH? Do you like camping? Do you want to help the next generation of Wildcats have a positive and successful transition to college?

PAWs is a 6-day, 5-night outdoor pre-orientation program for incoming first-year students. PAWs leaders come from all corners of campus and are some of the most involved students at UNH.

PAWs’ mission is to provide a challenging yet safe environment where incoming UNH students can experience a positive transition into college while learning about UNH and developing connections with other incoming students as well as upper class student leaders. The goals of PAWs are to:

- Facilitate the transition from high school to UNH
- Develop a sense of community, involvement, and tradition at UNH
- Foster a positive learning environment and a climate of mutual respect
- Create friendships and develop a support network
- Learn about UNH
- Be safe, yet challenged
- Have fun

During PAWs you and your co-leader(s) will have direct responsibility for a group of 8-10 first year students 24 hours a day. You will be asked to be fully present during PAWs, as well as during all training. All totaled, PAWs is a 17-22 day commitment over the course of the year. We also have several other optional events when we ask you to stop by and help out.

PAWs runs the traditional basecamp style experience out of Mendums Pond. In addition, there are also four PAWs backpacking trips which will start and end at Mendums, but spend the bulk of the week in the White Mountains.

All of our staff work to promote the mission of PAWs by presenting challenges for the groups to participate in and leading important discussions about topics that incoming students deal with at UNH. Specifically, we are looking for the following positions to be filled:

**Basecamp Leader** – Direct responsibility for 8-10 incoming students in a small group campsite at Mendums Pond. Facilitate daily activities such as canoeing, orienteering and cooking meals. Ability to fill down time with group games and meaningful discussion is imperative.

**Backpacking Leader** – Direct responsibility for 8-10 incoming students on trails and in backcountry campsites in the White Mountains. Manage risk and integrate meaningful discussions throughout the trip. Backpacking experience is a plus, but is not mandatory for leaders. Please note: An additional training from 5/18-5/23 is required for all backpacking leaders with a prep day on 5/16.

**Basecamp Logistics Coordinators** – LCs do much of the behind the scenes work during PAWs. LCs also spend time with groups and run activities. LCs complete all the same training as leaders, and may be asked to step up and lead a group if a need were to arise.

**Backpacking Logistics Coordinator** – Perform logistics to support the backpacking groups. You'll be based out of Mendums and also a roadside campsite in the White Mountains. While groups are out, you'll respond to their needs and also hike in for surprise visits as possible. Must have a clean driving record.
The training and experience you gain as a PAWs leader is highly transferable to other jobs and leadership positions. As a PAWs leader you will also have the opportunity to receive several valuable certifications (i.e. CPR, First Aid, WFA, Defensive driving, etc.) at no cost.

Applying to be a PAWs leader is a three step process.

1) Submit this written application by the deadline.
2) Participate in a group interview.
3) Participate in an individual interview.

New leaders will be selected based on all three aspects of their application.

Please return your completed application to Cary Rhodes (cary.rhodes@unh.edu) or via campus mail (Cary Rhodes, Hamel Rec. Center 128 Main St. Durham, NH 03824), or drop it off at the front desk of the Rec. Center by 12 PM on Monday, November 26th.

Group interviews will be conducted during from 12/1-12/3 & individual interviews will be conducted from 1/27-1/31. If you are selected to interview, you will be contacted to sign up for time slots.

THANKS FOR APPLYING AND GOOD LUCK!
Questions about applying or the PAWs program in general?
Contact Cary Rhodes (cary.rhodes@unh.edu)
http://campusrec.unh.edu/paws
2014 PAWs Leader Application

Name: ____________________________  Graduation Year: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

Campus Address: ____________________________  Home Address: ____________________________

Major: ____________________________  Minor: ____________________________

I am applying to be a: [ ] Basecamp Leader  [ ] Backpack Leader
[ ] Logistics Coordinator  [ ] Backpack Logistics Coordinator
(check all that apply)

Please respond to the following questions (feel free to use additional space if needed):

1. What skills and/or attributes do you possess that would make you an excellent PAWs leader?

2. Have you participated, either as leader or participant, in any of the pre-orientation programs at UNH as a participant or staff member? If so, please list the program and date(s) involved. What did you gain from this/these experience(s) that you will use as a PAWs leader?

3. If you could be any superhero, who would you be, and why?

4. Please tell us about how you are involved on the UNH Campus. What are you a part of, do you hold any leadership positions? What have you gained from this/these experience(s) that you will use as a PAWs leader?

5. Thinking back on leaders you have had, what characteristics of those individuals would you try to emulate as a PAWs leader?

6. In one paragraph, please share your greatest accomplishment here at UNH?

7. Do you have any hidden talents? Tell us about one.
8. Describe your camping experience? Do you have any other significant outdoor experience (i.e. backpacking, canoeing, orienteering, ropes course, etc.), if so describe. How will you handle spending six days in the woods with limited/no access to showers?

9. Can you play a musical instrument? Which one(s). What is your favorite song to play?

10. Do you have any relevant certifications (i.e. First Aid, CPR, EMT, Defensive Driving, Lifeguard, etc.)? PAWs leaders are expected to have at least First Aid and CPR certifications (we provide several opportunities during the year). Is there any reason you would not be able to obtain these certifications?

11. PAWs leaders are required to attend ALL training dates on the following days:

   - Weds. 2/5 – Evening – Welcome, Intros & Games
   - Thurs. 2/27 – Evening – The PAWs Experience – what it means to be a leader
   - Sat. 3/22 – 9am-4pm - New Leader Training
   - Sat. 4/12-Sun. 4/13 – Wilderness First Aid (for those who do not currently hold the certification)
   - Sun. 4/27 - Dayhike
   - Backpacking Only – Trip – 5/18-5/23, prep day 5/16
   - All Leader Training – 8/11-8/15 (some portion is overnight)
   - PAWs 2014 – 8/17-8/22 (24/7)

   Are you able to commit to all of these dates? Please note that several other UNH programs may conflict with PAWs, such as OLs, RAs, athletics, study abroad, summer classes, etc. If you have conflicts with these dates, please list them here. We expect leaders will be present at all required training/program dates, but will occasionally consider absences on a case-by-case basis.

12. Please provide us with one reference who can speak to your leadership skills/potential. Please provide their name, phone, email, and how they know you (no friends or relatives).

13. PAWs Leaders are expected to be in good standing with the University and strive to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5. Do you meet these requirements, and may we verify that you are in good standing with the Registrar’s Office and Judicial Programs Office? A conduct record or <2.5 GPA will not automatically preclude you from being a PAWs leader. By signing below, you allow us to check both academic and conduct records.

   __________________________
   Print Name

   __________________________
   Signature

   __________________________
   Date