

This document covers the FAQ's regarding the SLG Program and leader responsibilities. If you still have questions, please email slg@ufv.ca

1. What is SLG?

Our website gives you a background on the program and what it involves, please visit www.ufv.ca/slg for more information on the program.

2. Do I qualify for being an SLG leader?

SLG leaders are students who have taken the course they want to support and did well in it (GPA 3.0 or higher). They are usually recommended by faculty teaching that course, however you can always apply yourself and we can ask for a reference later. If you did well in the course but your overall GPA is lower than 3.0, please contact the program coordinator Navneet.Sidhu@ufv.ca

3. What are the duties of a SLG leader?

As a leader you would need 10-15 hours each week to work towards your duties which will involve:

- *Attending 3 hours of lecture* per week in the supported course. If you are supporting 2 sections, then you will attend 1.5 hours of each section. The purpose of being in the lecture is to freshen the course concepts, listen to what the faculty is pointing to as an important or non-important topic, to build relationship with the students and to make announcements in class.
- *Holding 2 sessions each week* (1.5 hours each). The times will depend on your schedule and the schedule of your students. Leaders survey the class to see what times are the best.
- *Holding an office hour each week* in the SLG office. This is to touch base with the staff and finish up your administrative work. Office hours can also be booked by students who need 1:1 assistance.
- *Attending SLG in-service trainings*. The training schedule will be given to you before the start of the term so you can plan accordingly. All trainings are **mandatory**. There are 4 trainings in fall and 3 in winter which usually happen Friday evenings. The pre-service training which happens in August has already been decided and the SLG application has all the dates. If you are unable to make it on any of those dates, the coordinator will decide the best route for you during the interview.
- *Other admin duties*.

4. When will I interview?

We schedule all interviews in the last two weeks of April. These interviews are usually face to face. There are only 2 people in the interview-the Coordinator and the Learning Support Facilitator. On some occasions, the SLG mentor can also be present. All candidates have to prepare a small presentation. If chosen for an interview, more details will be discussed via email.

5. When will I find out if I have been chosen as a leader?

We tend to inform the candidates no later than the first week of May.

6. Will I have access to session material?

If you are supporting a course that has been supported before, you will have access to all previous worksheets and session plans. Our leaders store everything on our Black Board portal which you will have access to once you are a leader. You can easily adapt those worksheets, use them as they are or come up with your own. We discuss all that in detail during our pre-service training as well. If you are supporting a course that has not been supported before, you will be the first to start building up on that material.

7. How many courses should I take while being a leader?

It depends on how much load can you take. Some leaders describe SLG as another course and recommend that if you were planning to take 5 courses, take 4 if doing SLG. However, it varies from leader to leader. Some leaders take a full load, do SLG and also work outside while some only take 3 and do SLG. SLG leaders usually spend more time doing SLG related work in the fall term. In the beginning you are learning and spending more time in planning your sessions and worksheets.

8. What if I took the course with a different faculty and am supporting the course with another?

This can happen and shouldn't affect your work at all because you will be in lecture every week to follow what is going on in class and you will know how the faculty member approaches material.

9. How many students can I expect in my session?

This will really depend on your course and may also vary from week to week. You can expect anywhere from 1-25 students in your session. Exam sessions usually tend to attract more students. There might be sessions with no shows in cases where no new material was covered in class or the topic was easy. Talk to the Coordinator if this is happening and they may suggest some strategies to increase attendance.

10. Can I teach in my sessions?

SLG leaders are not TA's or professors and therefore it is never recommended to teach. You will receive intensive training on facilitation skills and will receive feedback from time to time so you don't get into the habit of teaching. Leaders are guides and are trained on learning strategies that they can use to help students understand the material better.

11. What kind of support will I have?

Each leader will be assigned a mentor, who is a senior leader. They will observe your sessions 3 times per term and give you very detailed feedback on things that are working and for areas of improvement. The SLG office has an assistant to help you with any admin work, a Learning Support Facilitator to help you with any session related strategies and the Coordinator to help you with any difficulties you are facing.

We work very closely with our leaders and provide them with immense support throughout their journey as a leader.

12. What kind of support will I receive from my faculty? Will they be allowed in my sessions?

One of the perks of being a leader is that you get to work closely with your faculty. Faculty members can provide you feedback on your work sheets and sometimes can point you towards important topics. Faculty involvement varies as it depends on each faculty on how much feedback they want to provide you. You can always tell your faculty how many students are coming and what difficulties they are facing without pointing out “who” is coming. We like to maintain student confidentiality at all times. Faculty are therefore not recommended to observe your sessions. It is very important to maintain peer to peer environment so students are always comfortable and do not have to worry about repercussions of attending or not attending sessions.

11. How much do SLG leaders get paid? Do they have some other perks? Leaders make \$17.40 per hour. Other perks include:

- Employee parking pass
- Flexible working hours
- Opportunity to attend national and international conferences
- Opportunity to apply for a mentor position
- Access to the SLG office (during regular working hours)
- Leadership, collaborative learning and facilitation skills
- Public speaking skills
- Recommendation letters for grad and med schools
- Last but not the least, tons of friends