

Honors Program Application

Mission Statement

The mission of the Honors Program at Point Park University is to enhance the academic experiences of qualified students who desire a challenge, take responsibility for learning, and seek intellectual and personal growth. This especially motivated community of learners has opportunities beyond the classroom to develop to the fullest potential through community/University service projects, colloquia and leadership activities. Honors students will be expected to participate in Honors Program activities on and off campus because the program serves as a catalyst for innovative development not only within the curriculum but also within other University courses and within the larger community.

How to Apply

Please complete this application and prepare an essay as directed on the back of this form. Return both to: Helen Fallon; Director, Honors Program; Point Park University; 201 Wood Street; Pittsburgh, Pa., 15222.

Name Major

Address

City State Zip Code

Home Phone Other Phone Email

Entry Level:

- Freshman
- Transfer
- PT
- Other

If you are currently a student at Point Park, please indicate what year:

- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior

Honors Program Completion Requirements

To complete the program, a student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and complete 18 hours of honors credits maintaining a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher in honors courses.

Honors credits may include:

- Core classes, independent study courses, upper-level courses or contract courses
- Senior honors thesis or project

About the Honors Program

The Honors Program is unique in that a student is not required to have a minimum GPA, SAT, class rank or any other “number” measure to be accepted into the program. We believe the students who will most benefit from our program are those who seek to learn as deeply and fully as possible, and we realize students discover their hunger for knowledge at different times. While we are aware prior academic performance is one indicator of future success, we also know it is not the *only* indicator and that desire to succeed is important. Thus, any student who wishes to participate in the Honors Program is invited to do so. In order to complete the program, however, the student will be expected to demonstrate commitment and learning by maintaining an appropriate GPA (currently 3.0 overall and 3.5 in honors classes).

We ask that each applicant write an essay in response to one of the quotes below. This essay is an indication the applicant is willing to make the commitment to the program, and provides the program director and faculty members of the Honors Advisory Council an introduction to the student.

Essay

Choose one of the following quotes and write a 300-500 word essay. Please enclose the essay with your application.

No. 1

“When nothing seems to help, I go and look at a stone-cutter hammering away at his rock perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet at the hundred and first blow it would split in two, and I know it was not that blow that did it, but all that had gone before together.” – Jacob A. Riis, journalist

No. 2

“We shall never achieve harmony with land, any more than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations, the important thing is not to achieve but to strive.” – Aldo Leopold, conservationist

No. 3

“A man who becomes conscious of the responsibility he bears toward a human being who affectionately waits for him, or to an unfinished work, will never be able to throw away his life. He knows the “why” for his existence, and will be able to bear almost any “how.” – Viktor Frankl, “Man’s Search for Meaning”

No. 4

“Patience is a key element of success.” – Bill Gates, retired entrepreneur

No. 5

“Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without government, I would not hesitate to prefer the latter.” – Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States

No. 6

“Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe.” – Frederick Douglass, orator

Questions? Contact Mrs. Fallon at hfallon@pointpark.edu or 412-392-3982.