



NATIONAL PARK TRUST x HBCUs Outside COLLEGE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM SCHOOL SUPPORT DOCUMENT

This School Support Document should be signed by an official college/university faculty or staff member who is connected to a campus program, club, or academic department and agrees to work with the Ambassador pair over the 2024-2025 academic school year. The role of the campus program/club/ department is fundamental to the success of the program and the campus program/club/department should assist with all associated outdoor outings throughout the program time frame.

About National Park Trust & HBCUs Outside

National Park Trust works every day to ensure all people can experience the endless possibilities of our nation's parks. We do this by acquiring the missing pieces of our national parks and by engaging kids from every community across the nation in outdoor learning experiences.

HBCUs Outside helps HBCU students and alumni enjoy the natural world and become the leaders we need for a healthy planet and a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive outdoor industry.

Program Information

The National Park Trust x HBCUs Outside is looking for Historically Black Colleges & Universities student ambassadors to lead campus initiatives that increase outdoor recreation, awareness, and stewardship on campus.

This is a perfect adventure if you love the outdoors and want to experience building a healthy and environmentally friendly campus community.

As a student ambassador, you will be tasked with the following:

Programming: Developing and implementing outdoor activities throughout the Fall 2024 - Spring 2025 school year.

Community Building: Cultivating inclusive and healthy culture around the outdoors amongst your peers on campus and online via social media.

Chartering: Institutions that do not have an existing Outdoor Club, they will charter their school's very own Outdoor Club - leveraging school assets and school/community connections to make it happen!

Application Deadline: May 17th, 2024

Successful ambassador pairs:

- Are currently enrolled at a U.S.-based college/university and are in good academic standing.
- Have a passion for the outdoors, wellness, and community building.
- Excited by the idea of building an online community.
- Have a relationship with a school program, club, advisor, or academic department and can leverage assets and infrastructure (i.e., gear, transportation, marketing) to support outdoor experiences.



Application Requirements

Proposals must include details on the following activities:

- One visit to a local park raises the park's profile with the campus community. (Don't worry! There are resources to help make this possible!)
- One stewardship-focused outing that gets members of the campus community outside and actively participating in park stewardship.
- One outdoor recreation-focused outing at a National Park Service or U.S. National Forest location.
- One rails-to-trails outing on a local rail trail.
- One Collaborative outing where you partner with a non-outdoor club and plan a social experience. Ex: A Poetry slam, a picnic, or a hike.

Other Information Requested:

- A plan for how your school will store, maintain, and use the awarded 15-person gear bank.
- How are you involved with your campus community? What other clubs or extracurricular activities are you involved in on and off campus?
- Submit a 2-minute video (**shot vertically AND outdoors**) introducing yourself, which HBCU you represent, and your major. We want to hear why you believe getting HBCU students outdoors is important- and what excites you the most about this opportunity. This video will be your official ambassador welcoming video online - so let your personality shine; speak to your peers and us!
- Each ambassador pair must have written support from a school program, club, or academic department – endorsing you as their representative and agreeing to work with you on organizing and implementing ambassador outdoor outings. You will be asked to upload this document with a signature in the application.

Ambassador and School Resources

Resources include:

- A \$1,000 stipend for each ambassador AND \$2,500 for each college/university to support ambassador outings throughout the academic year.
- An opportunity to receive an additional \$500 additional grant for establishing a permanent outdoor recreation club on campus.
- A 15-person gear bank. Specific gear will be determined with the school.
- A National Park Trust x HBCUs Outside Ambassador t-shirt, a backpack and water bottle from Hydro Flask, National Park Trust swag, and more.
- Swag and materials for tabling events and outreach.

The College Ambassador Program will also offer career exposure and employment opportunities within the park and outdoor industries.



Program Timeline

May 17, 2024 - Deadline for online application

June 2024 - Notifications sent to applicants

September – October 2024 - Ambassador onboarding and planning

October 2024 – May 2025 - Outings and ongoing social media campaigns

December 2024 - Ambassador mid-year check-in

May 2025 - Ambassador final report due

National Park Trust Contact Information

Questions? Contact Annaliese Wan, Programs Coordinator

Email - annaliese@parktrust.org

Signatures:

I have read and understood the above and agree to support the ambassador applicant pair named below in successfully accomplishing the responsibilities and deliverables of the National Park Trust x HBCUs Outside College Ambassador Program. This includes professional guidance and help with park outings and logistics.

School Faculty/Staff Member:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

School Name: _____

Title: _____

Program/Club/Department Name: _____

Ambassador Names:

1) _____

2) _____