

Homecoming Ambassador Process and Expectations

Purpose

Each year, CMU would like to recognize student leaders who go above and beyond to make the university a better place for all. These students truly leave the university better than they found it and actively embody CMU's core values every day. Homecoming Ambassador Candidates serve as positive role models and represent the hard-working students throughout campus. By putting others first and employing a social justice mindset, these students utilize their unique talents to create more welcoming, equitable, and inclusive spaces at CMU. Each year, Homecoming Ambassadors engage in a Homecoming Service Project to further their commitment to making the campus community better for all.

CMU recognizes that leadership comes in many forms. To ensure Homecoming Ambassador Candidates truly represent the student body, CMU is committed to creating a process that is inclusive of students of all backgrounds and identities. Students are making a difference in their own way all across campus. The Homecoming Ambassador process aims to recognize diverse leadership experiences by asking students to tell their unique story of how they are making a difference on campus. Through a nomination and application process, students will have an opportunity to tell their story and earn a chance to represent the student body during Homecoming week.

In addition, Homecoming Ambassador Candidates receive the following benefits:

- **Top 10 candidates receive:**
 - Recognition on Office of Student Activities & Involvement social media pages
- **Top 5 candidates receive:**
 - A carriage ride in the Homecoming Parade
 - Free Homecoming game tickets for their friends & family
 - \$100 stipend for dress clothes to wear at Rock Rally & Homecoming Parade
- **Gold Ambassador receives:**
 - \$1,000 scholarship

Who are the Homecoming Ambassadors?

All Juniors and Seniors with a 2.25 Cumulative GPA or higher are welcome to participate in the Homecoming Ambassador Process! CMU recognizes that leadership comes in many forms and there is no “right” way to make a difference on campus. To ensure this process is representative of the student body, CMU is looking for students from all backgrounds and identities to participate.

What constitutes as leadership experience?

There is no one “right” way to exhibit leadership. Students from all around campus demonstrate leadership in many different ways and CMU aims to recognize all of them in this process. Leadership does not come from formal leadership positions, but from how students step up to address challenges and make campus better for others. Instead of focusing on titles, CMU encourages students to reflect on experiences where they helped leave CMU better than they found it.

Why are Homecoming Ambassadors important?

Students across campus are working hard to make their community better for themselves and others. In addition to studying hard, these students step up to address challenges both in and outside of the classroom. Through the Homecoming Ambassador Process, CMU aims to give back to the students who make the University a better place. Throughout the Homecoming Ambassador process, CMU aims to celebrate and recognize the hardworking students across campus.

When does this all happen?

The nominations and application process occurs in the spring semester. Students, Faculty, and Staff, have the opportunity to nominate students they feel exemplify CMU’s core values and go above and beyond in making CMU a better place. Once nominated, candidates fill out an application and a review committee scores each application. At the end of spring semester, the candidate pool is narrowed down to 10 students.

In the Fall, the top 10 students participate in a presentation and interview session. A separate review committee scores each candidate and the candidate pool is narrowed down to 5 students. The top 5 students are invited to participate in events during Homecoming Week and the Gold Ambassador is announced on the Friday of Homecoming. Campus voting occurs Sunday – Friday of Homecoming Week.

Process

Nomination: Opens on Monday, March 15 at 8:00 a.m.

Students, Faculty, and Staff are able to nominate one Homecoming Ambassador Candidate.

The deadline to Nominate an Ambassador Candidate is Sunday, March 28 at 11:45 p.m.

Candidate Requirements:

- Must be a junior or senior for the Fall Semester of Homecoming
- Must not be on academic or disciplinary probation
- Must have a 2.25 cumulative GPA or higher
- Must run individually (no teaming up)
- Must not be a member of the previous year's top 5 ambassadors
- Nominees are not allowed to nominate themselves

Application: Opens on Monday, March 29 at 8:00 a.m.

All candidates must be nominated by a student, faculty, or staff member.

The deadline to submit the Homecoming Ambassador application is Sunday, April 11 at 11:45 p.m.

Process:

- Nominees will complete an application
- Applications will be reviewed and scored by the Ambassador Selection Committee
- Top 10 Candidates will be announced at the end of Spring Semester
- Top 10 Candidates will be invited to interview early Fall Semester
- Candidates will participate in an interview and give a presentation on a selected topic
- Interviews / Presentations will be scored by a panel of judges and tallied by Ambassador Selection Committee
- Top 5 Candidates with highest scores will serve as Homecoming Ambassadors during Homecoming Week.

Voting

- Voting will open on Sunday of Homecoming Week
- Top 5 candidates will earn points for votes
- Points are cumulative throughout the entire process and will be tallied after voting
- Candidate with the most points is announced as Homecoming Gold Ambassador

Scoring

Applications will be scored cumulatively throughout the selection Process. Point distribution is as follows:

Application	40 points
Interview/Presentation	40 points
Campus Vote	20 points

Expectations

Top 5 Homecoming Ambassador Expectations

- Attend a Pre-Homecoming meeting with Homecoming Committee Co-Chairs
- Attend Homecoming Events as an opportunity to meet students around campus
 - Ambassadors are not expected to miss class or work for Homecoming events
 - Ambassadors are not required to attend all Homecoming events
- Participate in Homecoming Ambassador Service Project during Homecoming Week
- Serve as an advocate for Homecoming and CMU culture and traditions

Campaigning

Homecoming Ambassadors are not permitted to campaign for themselves. This includes campaigning on social media, around campus, etc.

Other groups (RSOs, friends, family, etc.) may advocate voting for a candidate if they choose to do so, though we encourage all to advocate for voting in general and not for a specific candidate.