

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

ASB TRIP ADVISOR EXPECTATIONS



Thank you for your interest in advising a 2018-2019 Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trip! For many years our alternative break program has been providing transformation experiences for students to give back to communities around the country. ASB combines education, strong direct service, and thoughtful reflection to create an immersive experience for students to grow through their engagement. Though our experiences are student-led, faculty and staff advisors add an important perspective to the student experience. Below are the responsibilities and expectations of a trip advisor. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Casey Krafton, the Active Citizenship and Engagement Associate at the Center for Transformation, at cakrafton@plymouth.edu,

SUMMARY:

Alternative Spring break is a community engagement centered program for PSU students. It is a unique opportunity to interact with a small group of students from varying academic disciplines and interest areas at PSU. Each ASB team consists of approximately 8 student participants, including 1-2 Student Coordinators. Student Trip Coordinators manage logistics for the trip, facilitate team activities and reflections, and serve as the main contact for service sites. Staff/Faculty Trip Advisors are in integral part of the ASB Program, they serve as the main advisor for each team's Student Trip Leader, and support them during the planning process and the trip itself as well as work with the ASB Staff Advisor (Casey Krafton) to ensure program goals are met. Previous experience with ASB or community service is not necessary.

COMMITMENT:

- 1) Weekly one hour meetings with group during fall/spring semester (once groups are determined and selected).
- 2) Travel and participation over spring break
- 3) 1-1 meetings with Student Trip Coordinators as needed

QUALIFICATIONS:

Strong communication and organizational skills, ability to motivate and inspire, ability to interact and encourage students in a team setting led by a Student Trip Coordinator, understanding of project goals, must be supportive of the philosophy of volunteerism and educating people about issues related to service.

TRIP ADVISORS ARE:

- Responsible for adding their valuable experience to the trip and its participants
- Not meant to micromanage the trip, but provide leadership in the event of a crisis and help ensure all student are abiding by agreed upon student participation contracts
- Encouraged to participate in pre and post trip activities as much as possible

EXPECTATIONS OF THE TRIP ADVISORS:

- Meet for pre-trip training
- Participate in all trip service, reflection, and cultural activities
- Be accessible to trip coordinators to provide mentorship and help facilitate leadership development

- Communicate and collaborate effectively with Student Trip Coordinators
- Be prepared to facilitate conflict resolution strategies
- Be prepared to help participants process issues encountered
- Be prepared to help Student Trip Coordinators manage stress, logistics, conflict, exhaustion and crisis
- Be prepared to share your thoughts and experiences with participants
- Uphold the mission, values and policies of the ASB Program
- Make meaningful connections and have fun!