

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Community Oriented Digital Engagement Scholars Supplemental Application

CODES Students Contract

Community-Oriented Digital Engagement Scholars (CODES) is an innovative, first-of-its-kind program supported by the Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Every aspect of CODES has been designed to help students succeed based on the best research about student retention and success. Out of a wide selection of applicants, we choose students to participate and be awarded a full-tuition waiver because of their commitment to the program's community-driven focus.

All of these questions are available on our website, so feel free to look at them there and craft your answers outside of this form before you submit!

Remember, we most want to learn about you and your interest in CODES. Please do not use AI-generated content in your answers. That tells us what a large data model thinks... we want to know what you think! **Applications with AI-generated content will be rejected.**

This is a program for students who are committed to their education at SIUE and to putting forth their best effort to learn how to make a difference in their community. Check below to confirm you will abide by the following standards of performance, participation, and ethical behavior.

- CODES emphasizes collaboration and group learning; you agree to participate actively, support classmates, and complete work on time.
- CODES is a program about technology, digital environments, and online interaction. You will engage technology with curiosity, push yourself to learn new things, and adopt a variety of platforms. Have patience and a sense of humor with technological hiccups.
- You will be working with community partners; you must practice justice, equality, and compassion in your interactions with other students, SIUE faculty and staff, and members of the community with whom we interact.
- You will participate actively in class and treat classmates, faculty, and staff with respect; this includes focusing during class and using technology for learning rather than an in-class distraction.
- You will enroll in and complete 12 or more credit hours per semester.
- You will complete all required coursework.
- You will maintain a 2.5 grade point average.

- You will attend all class times as scheduled except in case of illness or emergency.
- You will make regular appointments with your advisor and maintain open, honest lines of communication with your advisor and CODES instructors. You will also notify the SOAR office and the program of any changes in address or phone number.
- You will attend the mandatory one-day orientation during Welcome Week during each of your four years enrolled in the program.

Personal Information

First name

Last name

Email address

Phone number

SIUE 800# (optional)

CODES is a program for students who are Pell-eligible, among the first generation in their family to attend college, or historically underrepresented in their major. This includes (but isn't limited to) gender minorities, students of color, neurodiverse students, students with disabilities, LGBTQ+ students, men who are interested in majoring in nursing, women interested in majoring in computer science, and more. As such, we'll ask you to describe how your experiences and/or identity make you a good fit for the program. We recognize that might involve divulging private and sensitive information. Please know that your responses

will be read only by members of the CODES steering committee. The results of this survey will not be shared.

CODES is a learning community for students who are Pell-eligible, or among the first in their families to attend college, or historically underrepresented in their majors. Please describe how your background, identity, or lived experiences make you a good fit for this program. (50-100 words)

Are you a first-generation college student? (meaning your legal guardian(s) have not graduated from college)

- Yes
- No

Choose one or more races or ethnicities that you consider yourself to be

- White or Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Spanish, Hispanic, or Latinx
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- American Indian/Native American or Alaska Native
- Other
- Prefer not to say

How do you describe your gender identity?

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary/third gender
- Prefer to self-describe
- Prefer not to say

If you have completed your Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), were you told to expect federal or state

income-based grants?

- Yes
- Not Sure
- No

CODES is for new, incoming first year students. Will you be entering SIUE for the first time in the fall?

- Yes
- No

High School Information

High school name

High school city

High school state

What is your intended major? (It is okay, if you aren't sure yet)

Application Steps

Have you submitted your application to SIUE?

- Yes
- No

Have you submitted your FAFSA? (It is okay if it is still in process)

- Yes
- No

Short Answer Questions

Drawing on your own experiences, tell us why are you interested in coursework that is focused on community engagement and social justice? (250-300 words)

What unique experiences or skills will you bring to the CODES cohort? (250-300 words)

First-year college students often struggle to stay focused and provide assistance solving problems with group

projects. In the past, what have you done to collaborate effectively? (250-300 words)

In CODES, we work with people to address issues affecting their well-being. If you are accepted, you will work in a team during your first two years at SIUE to address a significant problem alongside your faculty mentor and a community partner. This might include researching how to support Black families in Alton as they cope with the effects of the current mental health epidemic, for example. Identify an issue in your own community and tell us what dimensions it has. Who is involved in the issue? How are they affected? Tell us how you might solve it, and what new issues might arise as a result of your solution. Please remember, we want your reflection on this problem. Do not use AI. (250 to 300 words)



Once you click the next arrow, your application will be submitted. Please go back and check your answers one more time (you can use the back arrow to check your answers on previous screens too).

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