

Hello,

I am so excited that you are considering becoming a student leader with us here at Shelter Rock Church Student Ministries! We strongly believe that Student Leadership is a big and exciting part of your journey in youth ministry. We also believe that all of our students possess leadership abilities and that God has given each and every one of us unique gifts to use for His glory.

We look at our student ministry here at SRC in the same way we look at the church at large; everybody has their unique gifts and abilities, similar to the different parts of the human body, and when we all work together and use our unique gifts together, we can make something truly awesome! As a student leader you will have the opportunity to discover the unique gifts God has given, you will be equipped and trained to use those gifts for ministry and you will have the opportunity to exercise those gifts.

In addition to unlocking and your own gifts and abilities, as a part of the student leadership team you will also have the opportunity to have a real input into what we do here at SRC Student Ministries. You will get to actively participate in brainstorming and planning events, you will have opportunities to have influence in what we teach and how we teach, you will get to participate in casting vision for our ministry and much more!

We recognize that Student Leadership is also a process that takes a lot of development and growing. We are so excited as adults to come alongside of you as the next generation of world changers! This means we are committed to providing training, mentorship and accountability through this process.

We look forward to walking through this process with you and are so excited for your potential and all that God wants to do in and through your life!

Sincerely,

Peter Ladenheim

Peter Ladenheim
Student Ministries Director
Shelter Rock Church

What Are The Characteristics Of A Student Leader?

A Student Leader is someone who...

- Is an active participant in SRC student ministry.
- Is in pursuit of a deep relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Acts as a representative of Jesus Christ, their fellow students, and Shelter Rock Church.
- Has a heart to serve.
- Has a teachable spirit and is willing to learn from those over and around them.
- Is willing to fail and learn from their mistakes.
- Has a humble spirit.
- Is accountable to other people (accountable to authority, mentors and an accountability partner).
- Is selfless and puts the needs of others above their own.
- Sets an example with their words and actions.
- Goes out of their way to make a positive impact on others.
- Is willing to actually lead their peers.
- Is willing to use their God-given talents (preaching, evangelism, worship, encouragement, welcoming, prayer, etc.)
- Is willing to give of their time and be committed to ministry in the same way they would be committed to sports or music, etc.
- Is willing to try new things and be a part of things that might not be their favorite.
- Is willing to compromise.
- Is willing to be vulnerable.

Nobody is perfect and even the best of us fall short at times. Being a Student Leader doesn't mean you'll never fail at these things; it means you will constantly try your hardest and strive to live up to these characteristics!

If you agree with these characteristics and agree to actively pursue living up to these standards, please insert your name in the blanks and sign below.

I, _____ (Print Name Here) agree to embody the characteristics of a student leader as described above. Though I may not always succeed, I will always put in maximum effort to live up to this standard. I understand that by doing this I can honor God and be a good witness to my friends, peers and circle of influence.

_____ (Print Name Here)

_____ (Date)

_____ (Sign Name Here)

_____ (Date)

What Is The Role Of A Student Leader?

A Student Leader with SRC Student Ministries will...

- Live a lifestyle like Jesus; knowing that nobody is perfect but that through the power of Christ we can be like Christ.
- Have a private quiet time and devotional time with God.
- Take an active role in weekly ministry; including not only being a part of Sunday Mornings and Delta, but also being active in helping run these gatherings.
- Take an active role in youth ministry events; meaning that they will not only be at them but they will actively participate in them and help plan, organize and run them.
- Participate in events and also the discussions and teachings that take place during services and events.
- Be an ambassador for SRC Student Ministries; meaning that you will advocate for what we are doing, be a part of what we are doing and get others involved in what we are doing.
- Communicate with leadership when they are unable to be a part of something.
- Be intentional to make “un-noticed people” feel welcome; meaning new students, students who aren’t plugged in or engaged and students who are by themselves.
- Be intentional to build relationships with other students and leaders; they will be a part of the team.
- Listen to and encourage their peers.
- Serve in their area of gifting; whether that be preaching, worship, greeting, evangelism, encouragement, etc.
- Be proactive in all that they do.
- Learn how to effectively respond to “tough questions.”
- Lead at least one person into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

We expect a lot of our Student Leaders, but it is because we believe they are capable of great things! We do not demand perfection; but we do require effort.

If you agree to actively own these roles and responsibilities as a Student Leader, please insert your name in the blanks and sign below.

I, _____ (Print Name Here) agree to own the role and responsibilities of being a student leader. I agree to be accountable to fulfill my duties in this role and to communicate with authority if there are aspects that I cannot do. I agree to have accountability to leaders over me as I am in this role and to treat this like any other commitment.

_____ (Print Name Here)

_____ (Date)

_____ (Sign Name Here)

_____ (Date)

How Do We Train Student Leaders?

As a Student Leader, we Staff Members and Adult Volunteers are making a commitment to train you and equip you to be an effective leader! We recognize that Student Leadership is a growing process and that it is necessary for us as a staff and adult leadership team to walk alongside you in this discipleship process.

We will help train you by...

- Having one-on-one mentorship with an adult leader (a Paul) who will not only train you, but will walk through the ups and downs of life with you.
- Facilitating peer accountability partners within the student leadership team (a Barnabas).
- Equipping you to mentor a younger student in ministry (a Timothy).
- Having regular training sessions with other pastors, other leaders and people who have experience and can help equip you for ministry and life in general.
- Having regular meetings, both for the process of bonding as a team, as well as to advance SRC Student Ministries.
- Providing assessments (NOT TESTS) to discover what type of leader you are and train you in your areas of gifting.
- Providing teaching on theology, apologetics, preaching, evangelism and much more
- Facilitating Student Leadership Team Bible studies on a regular basis.
- Having you actively journaling (at least 3 times per week) and having discussion based around what God is doing in your life.
- Creating opportunities for you to actually lead and serve others.

As the Student Ministries Director of Shelter Rock Church, I, Peter Ladenheim commit to walk alongside of you as a Student Leadership. I commit to live up to these standards which have been described above. I, along with my staff and adult volunteer leadership team, promise to do all we know to do to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ, grow in your leadership abilities and grow as an individual. We commit to developing you and showing grace, patience, mercy and understanding through the process.

(Youth Pastor's Name Here)

(Date)

(Youth Pastor's Signature Here)

(Date)

(Adult Mentor's Name Here)

(Date)

(Adult Mentor's Signature Here)

(Date)

Final Steps

These are the final things we need from you in order to process your application:

- Read and sign application.
- Find a member of the Adult Leadership Team who will serve as your mentor and have them sign their portion of the application (Page 4). If you don't know who to ask just indicate that to Peter in an email and we will match you with an Adult Leader.
- Submit your signed application to Peter in person or via email at Peter@ShelterRockChurch.com for review.
- Submit a brief summary (approximately one page) to Peter in person or via email at Peter@ShelterRockChurch.com describing a little bit about yourself, your relationship with Jesus, your current involvement with youth group, why you want to be a Student Leader, what you believe qualifies you to be a Student Leader and what you are looking forward to contributing as a potential Student Leader.
- Email Peter at Peter@ShelterRockChurch.com or call or text him at (631) 514-5011 to schedule an interview.

We are so excited about your interest in becoming a Student Leader and are privileged to get to walk through this journey with you! We pray for God's hand and guidance to be on your life and in the midst of this process!