

What is a Student Leader?

A positive example. Student Leaders assist 6th, 7th and 8th grade adult Small Group Leaders with PowerLife small groups. A Student Leader models an authentic personal relationship with Jesus Christ that is contagious for other students and encourages their discipleship.

A relational person. Student Leaders are responsible for assisting adult Small Group Leaders in facilitating discussion in the small group while creating a trusting environment where students can pursue what it means to follow Christ.

A collaborative and teachable person. Student Leaders willingly come under the leadership of Hosanna! Student Ministry staff using the materials provided to facilitate discussions and making programming dates a priority. Interns are provided to train, care for, and provide leadership support and have a passion for seeing Student Leaders succeed.

A committed person. Being a Student Leader requires dedication and a substantial time commitment. The success of PowerLife depends on leaders committed to being on time, fully present, and dependable.

Student Leader Qualifications:

- 10th-12th grade.
- Must be actively involved in Catalyst (including Small Group participation).
- Must exhibit a desire to lead and go deeper in faith journey (discernable by Student Ministries Staff and Small Group Leaders) and actively pursue spiritual growth.
- Ability to work with and relate to middle school students.

Student Leader Expectations:

- **Inward Growth** – We minister to others out of our own growth in Christ. Student Leaders are committed to a lifestyle of becoming more and more like Jesus through personal prayer time, Bible study, and attendance at worship.
- **Outward Actions** – Others will know us by our actions and lifestyle. Student Leaders are committed to representing and living out Christ's transformative love to the world by striving to avoid offensive jokes, sexual immorality, drugs, offensive language, inappropriate media, pornography, talking negatively of others, and any compromising situations. This includes what Student Leaders post on Facebook.
- **Christ-like Community** – Every person is made in the image of God. Student Leaders are committed to treating others with dignity, love and respect. Student Leaders help to create a safe small group environment where students can share and discuss their lives with discretion, sensitivity and confidentiality.
- **Encouraging Growth** – Small groups present the opportunity to encourage students to grow in their faith journey. Student Leaders are committed to helping students discover God's word, offering insight and experiences without "giving all the answers," encouraging and validating students during discussion, caring for students through contact outside of church, and praying for and with students on a consistent basis.
- **Active Participation** – Student Leaders are committed to participating in all events required for the position (e.g. Wednesday nights, Leadership Training, Student Leader Development Meetings, Service Projects, Retreats)
- **Partnering with Small Group Leaders** – Student Leaders are committed to providing necessary discipline and leadership to students (e.g. sit between disruptive or distracted students) and communicating with Small Group Leaders in the instance of absences.
- **Partnering with Staff** – Student Leaders are committed to helping maintain the integrity of Hosanna! Student Ministries vision by reading emails from Staff.
- **Vision** – Student Leaders are committed to embracing and embodying Hosanna's mission of "Advancing God's kingdom, everywhere, one person at a time," and the I-35 vision for Youth Ministries of "Embracing and Living the Faith." Leaders also commit to upholding the Hosanna! Safe Child Policy, Leadership Covenant, and the Hosanna Mission and What We Teach (viewable online).



Primary Time Commitment

Length of Commitment- 1 year minimum (3 years ideal)

Ideally, Student Leaders will serve with the same small group through their 8th grade year. (i.e. 10th graders serve with 6th graders, 11th graders serve with 7th graders, and 12th graders serve with 8th graders.)

Leadership Training

Student Leader Workshop- Wednesday, August 21, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Receive vital visioning, connection and training.

Wednesday nights, September 18- May 14

PowerLife: 6-7:15 p.m. AND Catalyst: 7:45-9:15 p.m. (See calendar for specific dates)

Be present to sit with your small group during large group (worship/teaching), meet for 30-40 minutes of small group time and participate in Catalyst as a student.

Student Leader Development Meetings

7:15-7:45 p.m., October 30, December 4, February 12, April 23

Location TBD

Connect with your Coach and other Student Leaders for leadership goals, prayer, encouragement, and to address any issues you are facing.

Retreats

7th/8th grade Boys Retreat: November 1-3, 2013 . **7th/8th grade Girls Retreat:** January 31-February 2, 2014.

All leaders (except 6th grade) are expected to attend the **Retreat** with their small group at Lake Geneva Christian Center in Alexandria, MN. The retreat is an awesome opportunity for leaders to connect with their students and God in a new setting, away from their daily routine.

Service Projects

December 11 (Food Drive), December 18, April 16

Serving is an important value we want to instill in our students. Leaders are responsible for coordinating two off-site service projects with your group (suggestions provided) and participating in the Food Drive (coordinated by Student Ministries).

FAQs

1. Will I be able to lead the small group on my own, if my Leaders are not present?

We don't encourage students to lead on their own. It's not that you can't, but we see Student Leadership as a training ground for greater levels of leadership. Adult leaders have been asked to find a sub. Taking the opportunity to lead the discussion at times, while an adult leader is present is highly encouraged. If finding a sub is unsuccessful, you may be able to lead on your own at the discretion of Student Ministries staff and if you are comfortable doing so.

2. Do I have to be involved in Catalyst too?

Yes. Since Student Leadership is a training ground for greater levels of leadership, having time to pour into you is essential. You still need to have an avenue to have discussion with your peers as you work out your faith in community. This will help you to be able to pour into your middle school students.

3. What if I have to miss a week?

Please let your Small Group Leader know ASAP. Then find time during the rest of the week to encourage your group in their faith via text, email or Facebook if you are able. If missing becomes a constant thing, it's ok if you have to re-think your commitment as a Student Leader. Just let us know if your schedule is getting to be too hectic and we'll discuss next steps.



Student Leader Signed Agreement

I have read the Student Leader Description and Commitment and fully intend to fulfill the stated Leader Expectations and Time Commitment for the integrity of Hosanna! Student Ministries:

Print Name

Signature

Date

*“Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were **working for the Lord** rather than for people.”- Colossians 3:23*

Please detach and turn in this signed/dated page to Student Ministries Staff or acknowledge that you have read/agree on your online registration.

