

Alternative Spring Break 2012 Application Packet

Trips sponsored by VOICES and the Inclusion & Community Engagement Center



What is an Alternative Spring Break?

An alternative break program places teams of college students in communities to engage in community service and experiential learning during their spring breaks. UTSA VOICES has sponsored trips since 2004.

In order to apply you must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be a UTSA student enrolled 9 hours (undergrad) or 6 hours (graduate student)
2. You must have a 2.5 cumulative GPA.
3. You must be in good financial, academic, and disciplinary standing.
4. You must be willing to submit a background check form and pass.

To Apply: Return application to the Inclusion & Community Engagement Center Front Desk, UC 2.01.04 on **January 31, 2012 by 5 pm**. Students who are accepted will be notified on February 6, 2012. For more information, contact Cristina Dominguez at 458-4770 or Cristina.dominguez@utsa.edu.

ASB 1: Operation Oklahoma: March 11-16, 2012 - \$75

Participants will volunteer with a different agency each day. Scheduled projects include working at the Oklahoma City Food Bank, working with the Oklahoma City Animal Welfare by helping in the Vet Clinic, and overall, enjoying the beautiful city of Oklahoma during evening activities. More projects are TBD, and all are subject to change. The Student Trip Leader is: Adebisi Adenji-Adele.

Things to keep in mind about this Alternative Spring Break trip:

1. You will be doing different projects every day, and the final project schedule is continually evolving.
2. Proper attire is mandatory – work clothes, closed toed shoes, etc. Appropriate clothing will change for each project.
3. Volunteer tasks could change depending on the need. You will need to be flexible.
4. You will travel to and from ASB in rented vehicles driven by UTSA staff advisors. You have a Student Trip Leader who will coordinate dinners, reflections, and more.
5. You will have a chance to make a difference in Oklahoma's state capital!

ASB 2: Serve San Antonio: March 12-16, 2012 - \$15

This project will allow a team of students to serve our local community with a different project each day Monday-Thursday, followed by a fun team outing Friday. Scheduled projects include spending one day working with Habitat for Humanity and other local agencies around San Antonio. This project will not involve overnight stays or travel beyond the San Antonio area. It will cost only \$15 per person to participate. The Student Trip Leader is: Jillian Marshall.

Things to keep in mind about this Alternative Spring Break trip:

1. You will be staying in San Antonio, and staying at your place of residence each night.
2. You will be expected to arrive on time each day to meet and carpool to the project for that day.
3. You will need to participate in every project during the week.
4. Volunteer projects will take place at Habitat for Humanity and other volunteer agencies in San Antonio. Projects are still being determined and are subject to change.
5. Flexibility is key, as projects could change due to volunteer need.
6. You will have the opportunity to make a difference right here in your own community!

Alternative Spring Break 2012 Application

Full Name: _____

Banner ID Number: _____ Major: _____

Phone: _____ Hours currently enrolled: _____

Email: _____

Classification (circle one): Fr So Jr Sr Grad GPA: _____

Which Alternative Spring Break trip would you like to attend? PLEASE RANK up to 2 if you are interested in both.

_____ Operation Oklahoma

_____ Serve San Antonio

Please answer the following questions and submit typed answers:

1. Please give your definition of "service" and describe a meaningful volunteer experience that you have been involved with.
2. Listed are various leadership styles. Please choose one of the following that you feel best describes you: Motivator, Coordinator, Teacher, Learner, Crisis Manager, and Counselor. Provide an example of a time when you have used that leadership style.
3. How, if at all, do you think the alternative spring break experience will contribute to your academic experiences as a UTSA student?
4. Describe a time when your outlook or views changed after being exposed to a diverse experience.
5. What are your expectations of Alternative Spring Break?

Statement of Understanding for the Alternative Spring Break Program

Please check the following statements and sign below.

- Yes No I understand I will be expected to participate in the entire Alternative Spring Break experience from March 11-16, 2012 (Operation Oklahoma) or March 12-16, 2012 (Serve San Antonio).
- Yes No I understand I will be expected to take part in the reflection activities during the trip (journaling, reflection questions and conversations.)
- Yes No I understand that at no time and under no circumstances will I be allowed to consume alcoholic beverages or illegal substances for the duration of the Alternative Spring Break trip (even if you are legal drinking age). This includes from the time I leave The University of Texas at San Antonio until the time I return. I understand that failure to abide by the alcohol/drug policy will result in disciplinary action.
- Yes No I understand that due to the nature of these projects, it is highly recommended that I have a current Tetanus shot and health insurance (see Jennifer Rames for more resources).
- Yes No I am in good academic, financial, and disciplinary standing with the University.
- Yes No If selected to attend a trip, I will be responsible for paying a fee of \$75 for Operation Oklahoma and \$15 for Project San Antonio within 2 weeks of acceptance to a trip, and will be responsible for paying for some meals. The final date for payment will be **Wednesday, February 15, 2012.**

I, _____, certify that I have carefully read the above information and that it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. UTSA staff have my permission to verify my grade point average and disciplinary standing.

Signature of
Applicant _____ Date _____

Please return this completed application by **Tuesday, January 31, 2012** between 8am-5pm to the Inclusion & Community Engagement Center, UC 2.01.04. Applicants will be notified within one week of submitting their application on Monday, February 6, 2012.

For additional information, contact Cristina Dominguez at 458-4770 or cristina.dominguez@utsa.edu