

Palomar College Rising Scholars Peer Mentor Program

Job Summary:

Palomar College Rising Scholars peer mentors are an integral part of the program, serving as role models and mentors to formerly incarcerated Palomar College students. Rising Scholars peer mentors provide Palomar College students direct support and connect them to campus and community resources; the peer mentor works only with formerly incarcerated students at the Palomar College San Marcos campus. The peer mentor helps use technology and other tools to navigate on- and off-campus support systems. Palomar College Rising Scholars support the program and its Student Services division with student access, success and retention, and guidance that helps Palomar students complete their courses, certificates and degrees.

Department: Rising Scholars

The program encompasses two components: classes that take place at the Vista Detention Facility and an on-campus program. On campus, formerly incarcerated students form a thriving community of people liberating themselves through education. The program has a dedicated space on the Palomar College San Marcos campus where students can get peer mentor support, meet with staff, use computers for schoolwork, get a snack, and more. Rising Scholars collaborates with other Student Services departments and Instruction to support student success and retention.

Time Commitment and Requirements

- Training will be included within work hours
- Work hours will be scheduled around your class schedule, but the peer mentor must be available on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the program's community check-in and a team meeting.
- Work hours to be determined with Rising Scholars coordinator
- \$17.00 per hour; Options available from 10 to 20 hours per week
- Commitment to serve for spring 2025 semester only

Application Process

Submit the following by email to Dr. Nora Kenney, Rising Scholars Coordinator, at nkenney@palomar.edu.

1. [Short-term and Student Application](#)
2. Cover letter explaining why you are interested in serving the college as a Palomar College Rising Scholars Peer Mentor and describing your experience interacting with people who have experienced incarceration.

Hiring Procedures

The Palomar College Rising Scholars peer mentor selection will be through a formal application and interview process. Applications will be reviewed using the Palomar College hiring policies and procedures. Interviews will be offered to select applicants based on qualifications, experience and quality of application documents.