The Lone Star College-Kingwood Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program provides opportunities for students to learn about social problems and work with community based service organizations during the week of spring break on projects designed to address those issues. Working in small teams under the leadership of a faculty advisor, students gain knowledge of social, economic, political, and cultural issues and develop the tools necessary for active and engaged citizenship.

**General Information**

Alternative Spring Break is sponsored by the Center for Civic Engagement. The mission of the center is to “encourage students, faculty, and staff to become active citizens involved in their communities by providing opportunities and resources to engage in service oriented community activities.” The ASB program allows students to use their time during Spring Break to serve others and work toward community change.

Transportation, food, and lodging are included in the cost of registration for each ASB trip. Students are expected to cover a portion of the trip, and scholarships are available through the Center for Civic Engagement for those with financial need. Other costs such as entertainment, tourist attractions, or souvenirs will be at the student’s responsibility and at their discretion.

Students should pack lightly. Each participant will be allowed one piece of luggage the size of an airline carry on (14 inches x 9 inches x 22 inches) plus one personal item such as a purse or backpack.

As representatives of LSC Kingwood, students will be expected to follow all regulations in the LSC Student Handbook in addition the expectations and responsibilities described in this application.

***Please initial each section if you agree and meet the requirements. You must agree and meet the following requirements to be eligible for each trip.***

\_\_\_\_ **Basic Trip Information**

A student may not go on the same trip more than twice. Trip slots are held only for students who have paid their deposit and trip slots are on a first come/first serve basis. No slots will be held for any student if you have not paid the deposit. All applications will be evaluated using the information provided below.

**\_\_\_\_ Commitment**

ASB takes a considerable amount of time and energy. There are activities that take place both before and after each ASB trip and travel and workdays during the trip can be long. Students are expected to attend all ASB related activities and be fully engaged during the ASB service week. There will be attempts to contact you if you are running late, but the buses will wait no more than 30 minutes past the scheduled leave time before leaving. *Students who are unable to fulfill their program commitments may be removed from the program at any point at the student’s expense and any payments made will not be refunded.*

**\_\_\_\_ Drugs and Alcohol**

All Alternative Spring Break Trips hosted by Lone Star College are drug and alcohol free.

**\_\_\_\_ Payment, Cancellation, and Refund Policy**

Payments and deposits must be made on the dates indicated on this application. Participant payment indicates a student is able to commit to the ASB program and understands that payments made after acceptance to the program will not be refunded. *By signing the application form, students acknowledge and understand that only the ASB deposit is non-refundable. If the student agrees to participate in the ASB, subsequent payments for the cost of the program will not be refunded.* If a student is not able to fulfill their responsibilities of the ASB program for extenuating circumstances, they may request a refund from the Director of the Center for Civic Engagement. A request does not mean a refund will be granted.

\_\_\_\_ **Costs, Deposits, and Payment Dates**

The cost of the ASB program for participants varies by trip. **Applications and half of the full trip amount deposit are due by February 5, 2016 in PAC 113 at LSC-Kingwood.** *If a student is not selected to participate in the program or if the student decides not to participate in ASB, the deposit is non-refundable.* **If a student is selected for ASB, the remaining refundable payment of the second half of the trip payment will be due at the orientation of your choice: February 20th or 28th, 2016 in PAC 113 at LSC-Kingwood.**

**Example:** If the trip costs $200, you must pay a deposit of $100 when you turn in your application. You must pay the second $100 at or before the mandatory orientation.

**\_\_\_\_ Important Dates**

Students participating in ASB must be able to travel March 12, 2016 through March 20, 2016. There will be shorter trips available for those who have other obligations. In addition to ASB travel dates, students participating in ASB must commit to attend several meetings before and after the trip. These dates are as follows:

February 20 or 28, 2016 – Mandatory Orientation and Trip Breakout Sessions

The group from your respective trip will set the next meeting.

April 1, 2016 – Post-ASB Session

**Contact Information**

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Seth Howard

PAC 113G

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*Please print legibly and provide all information requested as completely as possible. Attach any additional information if necessary. Applications may be returned to the office of the Center for Civic Engagement, PAC 113.*

Preferred ASB Trip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LSCS Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Hours Completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special skills (bilingual, First Aid, CPR)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about ASB? \_\_\_\_Faculty Member \_\_\_Poster \_\_\_\_Friend \_\_\_Other

What interests you most about participating in an Alternative Spring Break trip?

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List any campus organizations of which you are a member.

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List your previous leadership or volunteer experience.

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*Please answer the following questions on a separate typed page. Limit your response to three double spaced pages or less.*

1. Why do you want to spend your Spring Break working with the ASB program and what do you hope to gain by participating?
2. What are two things you like about working with a group? What are two things that you find frustrating when working with a group?
3. Choose an issue of importance to you – the issue could be personal, school related, local, political, or international in scope – and write an essay in which you explain the significance of that issue to yourself, your family, or your community.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*My signature indicates that I understand the information on this application and the requirements of the Alternative Spring Break program.*