



TRAILBLAZER LEADER JOB DESCRIPTION

UNE's New Student Orientation Program assists incoming first year and transfer students, and their families, with successfully transitioning to the UNE community. Serving as a Trailblazer Orientation Leader (TB OL) is an opportunity for you, as a current student, to support your incoming peers while also developing leadership skills, increasing your knowledge of the outdoors, and building connections that will last your lifetime.

Qualifications

- Applicants must be enrolled in an undergraduate degree program at UNE and have completed one semester of coursework on campus.
- Good academic and conduct standing with a cumulative GPA of 2.25 or higher.
- Relate well with students, parents, faculty, and staff.
- Sincerity, reliability, responsibility, confidence, flexibility, a willingness to help, and strong interpersonal communication skills.
- Show a desire to learn about the University of New England and its programs and policies and show an intention to promote UNE positively.
- Full participation in the TB OL selection and training process.

Responsibilities

- Welcome students upon arrival to campus.
- Lead activities and/or games that encourage new student interaction with OLs and one another.
- Facilitate three-night, four-day Pre-Orientation trips in conjunction with professional guides & UNE Faculty/Staff during Trailblazer orientation sessions. Trips include backcountry travel and camping, front country travel and camping, boating, and urban travel.
- Lead discussion groups of incoming students as assigned.
- Acquaint new students with campus services, activities, and building locations.
- Serve as a resource person for incoming students.
- Attend orientation-sponsored events for first year students, as outlined.
- Facilitate all Trailblazer traditions.

Expectations as an Orientation Leader

- Be an enthusiastic member of the UNE community.
- Be willing to purposefully invest in the lives of first year and transfer students.
- Commit to attending required training sessions.
- Be able to facilitate discussions and icebreakers in a group setting.
- Be willing to invest time outside of training meetings to learn what you need to know about the UNE community.
- Be willing to learn and grow in your leadership capacity.
- Be open and honest about your UNE experiences while also representing the University in a positive and collaborative way.
- Be passionate about your role as a Trailblazer Orientation Leader and assist in the recruitment of the next year's OL team.
- Physical expectations
 - Willingness to camp for three consecutive nights in remote settings
 - Able to walk up to 6 miles a day with a backpack over uneven terrain
 - Willingness to use small boats in coastal waters (kayaks, canoes, etc.)
 - Lift 50 lbs. to waist height
- Please contact the Trailblazer team if you are unable to complete these tasks; we may be able to make accommodations.

Spring Semester Dates, 2026:

- Meet the Team Training: date TBD
- UNE Accepted Students Days (March 28, April 11, and April 18)
 - TB OLs will be required to work at least 2 of the 3 Accepted Students Days

Summer Dates, 2026 (most weeks will be 50+ hours):

- 6/3 - Move in (TENTATIVE)
- 6/4-6/5 - Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course
- 6/8-6/13 - Training trip (TENTATIVE)
- 6/17-6/20 - TB Week 1
- 6/24-6/27 - TB Week 2
- August, First Generation Bridge Program
 - Participation is not required for all TB OLS
 - Dates TBD

Compensation:

Orientation Leaders will receive an hourly rate of \$15.10/hr., or the current minimum wage. Housing will be provided for Trailblazer OLs in June.

For more information contact Mira D'Amato, Assistant Director of Outdoor Recreation and Education, at mdamato1@une.edu.