Raleigh Digital Connectors Program

Participant Application 2021-2022

Dear Applicant,

Congratulations! You have taken the first step toward becoming a Raleigh Digital Connector. By completing this application, you are expressing your serious commitment to help others and to better yourself. If you are selected as a Raleigh Digital Connector, you will join a national movement of leaders who are making a positive difference in their communities by helping bridge the digital divide.

The Raleigh Digital Connectors Internship program is a unique opportunity for you and your peers to serve your community through technology, community service and leadership. You will become an intern and volunteer for the Digital Inclusion unit with the City of Raleigh's Housing and Neighborhood's Department. The City of Raleigh provides this internship opportunity through strategic partnerships and offers expanded levels of digital readiness and leadership training.

Many students from around the City of Raleigh will apply for the program, so make sure that your application stands out among the very best. Please answer all questions completely. If you have any questions, call or email the contact person on the application. **We will not review incomplete applications.**

Based on the applications we receive, a group of candidates will be chosen and invited to an interview. A panel of people will interview you, and you will want to arrive prepared, energized, and on time. From the interviews, we will select our finalists and announce the 2021-2022 Raleigh Digital Connectors.

COVID-19 Program Preparedness

Amidst the continued concern for safety regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are making efforts to conduct interviews in late August in a virtual setting. If you are selected for an interview, then you will be asked if you have the technological capability to participate in a virtual interview. If you do not have the technological capacity to participate in a virtual interview, then we will discuss a safe alternative.

We are making a strategic effort to create a socially distanced and safe computer lab to hold in person sessions for the upcoming Raleigh Digital Connectors program. We will still have capacity to go virtual during any point of the nine-month program cycle. Please email me directly with any questions or concerns related specifically to COVID-19 and the Digital Connectors program at Bradley.upchurch@raleighnc.gov.

Program Details:
- Open to applicants between 14 and 18 years old
- Space is limited to 15 students
- One participant per household
- **Participants must live inside Raleigh City Limits.**
- Service projects and opportunities will be held on designated Saturdays & occasional weekday evenings (COVID-19 precautions may affect the ability to hold some of these events)
- Graduates receive $500 and a laptop

Program Schedule & Location:

September 14th, 2021 – May 12th, 2022
Tuesday & Thursday evenings, 5:30pm – 8:00pm
Raleigh Pathways Center: 900 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

APPLICATION OPTION

1. Typed as a Microsoft Word Document of Fillable PDF
2. Printed and Handwritten. Handwritten applications should be mailed or faxed with the information below.

Attn: Bradley Upchurch
421 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1200
Raleigh, NC 27601
Tele: 919-996-5524
Fax: 919-996-7429
Email: Bradley.upchurch@raleighnc.gov

Application Deadline is Friday, July 23rd, 2021

PLEASE SIGN HERE THAT YOU HAVE READ THE

PROGRAMMATIC INFORMATION ABOVE.

Applicant Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parental Signature _____ **Date**_____

APPLICATION
PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name:

Home Address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone:	**Applicant's Cell Phone:**

Current Age:	**Date of Birth:**

E-mail Address:

Name(s) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Address(es) of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone Number(s):

Home:	**Work:**	**Cell:**

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) E-mail Address(es):

If your child is selected for an interview which number is the most preferred for scheduling an interview? Please Indicate One

Home   Parent Cell   Applicant's Cell   Work

EDUCATION

Name of High School/College (Current):

Grade/Class (Current):	**Expected Year of Graduation:**

WORK / VOLUNTEER/ EXTRA CURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

List your previous work, volunteer, and/or extra-curricular experience. Start with the most recent.

Employer/Organization Name	Position/Role	Dates of Employment/Activity Month/Year	Contact Info Supervisor, Address, Phone
1)			
2)			
3)			

TECHNOLOGY

Rate your ability to use technology:

☐ High   ☐ Medium   ☐ Low   ☐ Not at all

Have you ever TAKEN a technology course or training before?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Course Name	School Name

Have you ever TAUGHT a technology course or training before?
Yes ☐ No ☐

Course Name	School Name or Organization Name or Other

Do you have a computer at home?   Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you have Internet access at home?   Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you have a Smartphone?   Yes ☐ No ☐

How often do you use a computer?

☐ Daily   ☐ 3 times per week   ☐ Once a week   ☐ Not at all

How often do you use the Internet?

☐ Daily   ☐ 3 times per week   ☐ Once a week   ☐ Not at all

SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

How do you rate your skills in the areas below? Mark one box for each area.

Area	High	Medium	Low	Not at all
Internet (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, etc.)				
E-mail (MS Outlook, Gmail, Yahoo, etc.)				
Social Media (Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, etc.)				
Microsoft Office (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint)				
Coding (Web Design, Scratch, HTML, CSS)				
Digital Media (Music, Photography, Movie Maker, Video)				
Graphics (Photoshop, Illustrator, etc.)				
Tablets/iPads/Smartphones				
Wiring and Cabling for Networks				
Software Installation				
PC Troubleshooting and Maintenance				
Operating systems (check all that apply): ____ Windows ____ Mac O/S				
Blogs, Discussion Groups, Podcasting				
Other: (Robotics, 3D Printing, etc.)				

Short Answer Questions
Answer each of the questions below.
Please be thorough with your responses. You may attach additional pages if necessary.

1. Describe a situation or experience where you have taken leadership:

2. As a leader, what are your strengths and challenges?

Strengths (at least 3):
_____

_____

_____

Challenges (at least 3):
_____

_____

_____

3. Describe a situation or experience where you have been a teacher to someone:

4. What are your future goals?

5. The Raleigh Digital Connectors program is an exciting technology initiative that bridges youth with others in their local neighborhoods to promote technology awareness and adoption. In one paragraph, share why you want to be part of this program and what you want to learn as a program participant.

_____

6. How did you hear about this program?

Privacy Notification:
The City of Raleigh maintains strict confidentiality and privacy practices to safeguard your personal information. By submitting an application you will provide personally identifiable information including, but not limited to your name, address, and telephone number. The information you provide will be used for the sole purpose of processing your application. If accepted into a stipend based or internship program, your social security number will be required to process stipends and wages. The City of Raleigh will restrict access to your information to only those who have a business reason to know your information, unless required by law.

Non-Discrimination Policy:
The policy of the City of Raleigh is, and shall be, to oppose any discrimination based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status or national origin in any aspect of modern life.

Release, Indemnity, and Agreement Not to Sue
I understand that participating in the recreational program selected involves risk of injury or illness. These risks include, but are not limited to, inclement weather, accidents while traveling, food related illness, equipment problems or failures, contact with and actions of other participants, spectators, and volunteers, slips/trips/falls, and musculoskeletal injuries, among others. I choose for myself or for my child to participate in the selected programs despite the risks. By signing the Program Registration form, I acknowledge all risks of injury, illness, death, and property damage, and affirm that I have assumed all responsibility of injury, illness, or death in any way connected with participation in the program. I also agree for myself and for any child participant to follow all rules and procedures of the program and to follow the reasonable instructions of the teachers and supervisors of the program.

In return for the opportunity to participate in this program, I agree for myself and for my heirs, assigns, executors, and administrators to release, waive, and discharge any legal rights I may have to seek payment or relief of any kind from the City, its employees or its agents for injury, illness, or death resulting from this program. If I am registering a child for a program, I agree that I am a parent, legal guardian, or am otherwise responsible for the child whose application I am submitting and that I release, waive, and discharge any legal rights that I may assert on behalf of the child participation in the program. I also agree not to sue the City, its employees, or its agents and agree to indemnify the City for all claims, damages, losses, or expenses, including attorney's fees, if a suit is filed concerning an injury, illness, or death to me or to my child resulting from participation in the program.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to the City of Raleigh policies listed on this form. My signature also verifies that all information stated is correct.

_____   _____
Raleigh Digital Connector Applicant   **Date**

_____   _____
Parent/Legal Guardian of Raleigh Digital Connector   **Date**
(If applicant is under 18)