

MARKET YOUR EXPERIENCE

RESIDENT ASSISTANT

Let's talk about your Resident Assistant experience

Resident Assistants (RAs) act as peer mentors and role models, creating and maintaining a safe environment for their residents. They also focus on community development, to ease the transition to college for students living away from home. RAs at Texas State enforce university standards, and departmental priorities of Quality, Mattering & Belonging, and Responsiveness. RAs work closely with Residential Life staff to focus on personal growth initiatives for the students living within Texas State's residential communities.

Sample action verbs

Action verbs highlight the task you've completed and make your statements stand out.

When you supported students:

Advised, Informed, Educated, Recommended

When you managed a team:

Facilitated, Mentored, Cultivated, Guided

When you changed or improved something:

Developed, Restructured, Updated, Integrated, Redesigned, Strengthened

When you increased efficiency or productivity:

Enhanced, Maximized, Improved, Advanced

When you led a project:

Coordinated, Executed, Delegated, Programmed, Organized, Operated

When you envisioned and brought a project to life:

Developed, Established, Implemented, Formulated, Initiated, Charted

Potential skills gained

- Time Management
- Crisis Management
- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Problem-Solving
- Mentoring
- Detail-Oriented
- Critical Thinking
- Adaptability
- Teamwork
- Programming
- Delegation
- Facilitating

Sample resume action statements

- Facilitated # of floor meetings to enhance community engagement and foster a sense of belonging among residents
- Organized and executed social events, resulting in % increase in resident participation, fostering a sense of belonging
- Served as a mentor to new RAs, providing guidance on effective communication, conflict resolution, and programming initiatives
- Responded promptly to emergency situations, providing emotional support and critical information to residents during crises

Resume resources

- Attend resume-building events that we hold each semester
- Find resume building resources on our website or Handshake Career Center page
- Bring your resume to our Drop-in Hours, if you're just getting started or need a quick review
- Login to Handshake to schedule an appointment for an in-depth resume review
- Utilize LinkedIn Learning for free - just use your TXST email
- Submit your resume to our online resume review portal

Become career ready

Career Readiness is a key to ensuring successful entrance into the workforce. Be ready for your future job through these skill competency areas:

- Advocacy & Compassion
- Career & Self Development
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Leadership
- Professionalism
- Teamwork
- Technology

Connect with Career Services

You're not alone on your career journey. Career Services at Texas State is here to help you as you explore your career options, grow your network, job seek, apply to jobs, and continue to grow as a Bobcat professional.

You can stop by the Career Services office for Drop-in Hours, Monday through Friday, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to get quick answers to your career questions.

Visit our website to explore our many free services, available to both students and alumni.



Potential interview responses

Student leadership provides preparation for the professional world upon graduation. Your RA experience has allowed not only personal growth, but a strong foundation for success in any professional role you pursue. During your interview, you can set yourself apart with unique responses that highlight your residence life work.

Describe a time where you were faced with a difficult person/situation. How did you approach it, and what steps did you take to find a solution?

- Skills to Highlight: Critical Thinking
 - An example could be certain interactions with students in your residence hall or with other RAs. How did you recognize the problem(s)? What was the approach in navigating the issue, and how did you overcome it? When answering, focus on your approach, emphasizing strategies you used to remain calm, composed, and focused. Throughout your response, highlight any relevant skills that you demonstrated during the situation

Can you describe your leadership style and how it has evolved over time?

- Skills to Highlight: Professionalism and leadership
 - As an RA, you definitely served within a leadership role. Reflecting on your specific role, describe what skills helped you be more intentional in your connections with the students in your residence hall. When answering the question, focus on the skills that you have gained over time, and provide

Check out all of our guides in the Market Your Experience series. We offer guides for Residence Assistants, Executive Board members, SLAC workers, Study Abroad participants, Fraternity and Sorority Life members, Orientation Leaders, On-Campus Employment, and Bobcat Build participants