

Big Sib Requirements and Responsibilities 2023

Please read the following responsibilities carefully, email Honors@tnitech.edu if you have questions. Submit your [2023 Big Sib Application](#) by Friday, March 31.

Attend Fall and Spring Workshops and training sessions:

- **Spring workshop** (April) for ALL Big Sibs
If you opt to serve at SOAR during the summer, you will also attend a training session about the role you will have as a Big Sib during SOAR.
- **Fall workshop** (mid-August) for ALL Big Sibs
If you opt to serve as a VIP Ambassador because you are not available during the summer, you will also attend a training session to learn your role as a Big Sib meeting prospective students and parents.

You must attend and contribute to the two workshops and your training session. The Honors staff reserves the right to exclude any prospective Big Sib who does not take the workshops seriously.

Spring

- **Submit your availability** for the Spring workshop.
- **Complete the Active Listening Inventory**, and read the Active Listening Guide.
- **Review Honors curricular options** in iLearn, on the website: esp. colloquia, experiential learning.
- **Take the Big Sib quiz** on iLearn and score 100% (multiple attempts allowed).
- **Post on the iLearn Big Sibs Discussion Board** by the announced deadline: Write about some specific Honors experiences you've had. These stories should be engaging, factual, brief, and positive. Examples: your experience proposing an activity for ASG, starting research with a faculty mentor, an Honors Contract, leading a committee, or taking an Honors Colloquium.

Summer

- **Contact your Little(s)** over the summer to introduce yourself within one week of receiving your assignment.
- **Contact Littles** again before Great Move-In Day (a few days before classes begin). Submit availability via link we will send you to let us know if you can assist with move in.

Fall

- **Attend Big/Little Sib Party** or other ASG/Honors Welcome Week event with Little(s).
- **Attend one** Honors community, academic, or other Honors or ASG event after WoW with your Little(s).

- **Contact Little(s) at least five times after classes begin** (at least three times before registration) as directed in the contact sheet.
- **Document your contacts** and activities with Little Sibs and share the log with the Big Sib Chair via OneDrive.

Availability Options

All Big Sibs must select **one** of the following options:

- **Three SOAR sessions**—see SOAR dates below.
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall only** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **Fall only**.)
- **Six SOAR sessions**—see SOAR dates below.
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall & Spring** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **Fall & Spring**.)
- **Two SOAR sessions and three VIP Ambassador meetings**
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall only** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **Fall only**.)
- **Seven VIP Ambassador meetings.**
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall only** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **Fall only**.)
- **One SOAR and ten VIP Ambassador meetings**-5 in Fall, 5 in Spring.
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall & Spring** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **both Fall & Spring**.)
- **Fourteen VIP Ambassador meetings**- 7 in Fall, 7 in Spring.
(Fulfills HPEO Unit 1 or 3 for **Fall & Spring** -- or -- an HEF leadership milestone for **both Fall & Spring**.)

SOAR Option

The SOAR option consists of serving at two-day SOAR sessions during the summer.

- Day ONE: 10 am – 1 pm; describe the benefits and requirements of Honors to incoming students.
- Day TWO: 2 pm – 5 pm; assist with Honors checkout.
Dates for summer 2023 SOAR session are listed below.

Honors VIP Ambassador Option

VIP Ambassadors explain the Honors Program to prospective Honors students during campus tours.

Big Sibs who request the VIP Ambassador option as part of their Big Sib experience

- Will receive additional training.
- Must be available between 12:10 and 12:45 pm at least one day per week for VIP meetings.

Dates for summer 2023 SOAR sessions:

1. Thursday - Friday, May 25 - 26
2. Tuesday - Wednesday, May 30 - 31
3. Thursday - Friday, June 1 - 2
4. Monday - Tuesday, June 5 - 6
5. Thursday - Friday, June 8 - 9
6. Monday - Tuesday, June 12 - 13
7. Thursday - Friday, June 15 - 16
8. Thursday - Friday, July 20 - 21
9. Monday - Tuesday, July 24 - 25
10. Thursday - Friday, July 27 - 28
11. Monday, July 31 - Tuesday, August 1

If you have any questions about being a Big Sib, email Honors@ntech.edu.

Access the application here: [2023 Big Sib Application](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

How much of a time commitment is required of Big Sibs?

It varies. Big Sibs can expect to attend two workshops (one in spring, one in late August), accompany Little(s) to at least one Honors event during Welcome Week, and check in periodically with Little(s) across the semester to answer questions and make plans.

Some Big Sibs take their Little(s) around campus at the beginning of the semester to ensure they know how to find their buildings for each class. You and your Little(s) can communicate about what is most helpful.

Additionally, Big Sibs help out with SOAR sessions or VIP meetings; you select which works best with your schedule.

What if I'm a commuter student— can I still be a Big Sib?

Yes! Honors commuters may not live on campus, but they are still well-versed in University life and experienced with Honors.

I'm worried I don't have all the answers. Should I still apply to be a Big Sib?

Yes! We will train you on how to answer Little Sib questions and when to direct your Little somewhere else for help.

I'm an introvert. Will I be required to attend large events?

You and your Little(s) can decide together the activities that you would like to attend. It can be in small groups rather than large events, as both of your schedules allow. Many of our incoming freshmen are also introverts and will select a Big Sib with similar socializing preferences.

How many Little Sibs will I be assigned?

You can request only the number of Littles you are comfortable with— even if that is just one or two. Introverts, extroverts, and everyone in between who is ready to be a resource for the next cohort of Honors students is encouraged to apply!