

E.M.P.O.W.E.R.

*Encouraging Minority People to Overcome With Education and Respect
Presented by: Students at the University of Washington*

You are invited to participate in the E.M.P.O.W.E.R. program. Participation in this program will develop the critical thinking skills that will lead to a successful college career. The program focuses its resources on under-represented minority populations, but application and participation in the program is not limited to these groups.

How does the program work?

The goal of this program is to help students gain admission to college and to prepare them for the rigors of college study. This is accomplished through bi-weekly sessions on the University of Washington campus from October – June.

During bi-weekly sessions, students will develop and enhance their leadership skills while promoting critical dialogue concerning the issues of racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, and religious oppression.

During the last sessions, students will design and implement a project to showcase what they have learned during the course of the year. This is the spark that will empower participants to collective action around issues facing their communities. The program does **not** guarantee admission into The University of Washington.

Student Expectations:

Students are expected to attend meetings and complete assignment on a bi-weekly basis (every other Saturday at the University of Washington from 12pm – 3pm). Students are expected to do their homework. Students are also expected to provide their own transportation. Lunch will be provided at all of the meetings. In early October, an introductory retreat will take place on a weekend that will be determined at a later date.

Who should apply?

High school juniors (graduating in June 2010) and seniors (graduating in 2009). We also hope they are interested in pursuing higher education and impacting their respective community. We examine all applications no matter the GPA.

Application Deadline September 15, 2008 (for seniors)

Application Deadline September 30, 2008 (for juniors)

What do I need to do? (Application Checklist)

MAIL YOUR COMPLETE APPLICATION BY DEADLINES DESIGNATED ABOVE

- ◆ **Application Form**
- ◆ **Official High School Transcript**
- ◆ **Two Letters of Recommendation – One Academic and the other from someone (non-relative) within your community (advisor, pastor, etc.)**
- ◆ **Resume**
- ◆ **2 Expressive Responses: (See below for further instructions)**

If you have trouble completing any requirements please contact us as soon as possible. (Please see contact information below) We will review partial applications, but we will not offer admission into our program without all requirements completed.

Expressive Response Criteria:

Your responses do not need to follow a particular format, be creative. You may express yourself through an essay, poetry, drawing, song or any other creative method.

REQUIRED RESPONSE:

Define social justice, then describe how one or more of the following, (race, class, gender, sexuality, religion), have impacted your life and beliefs?

Chosen Response:

Respond to **one** of the following topics.

- A. Describe the attributes of an individual who has inspired you and outline the ways in which this individual has impacted your life, your goals and your actions.
- B. Present a social problem you see in your school or community and how you would solve it.
- C. What are your strengths and weaknesses? How do you utilize your strengths and overcome your weaknesses?

Please mail completed application to:

**University of Washington
EMPOWER Program
394 Schmitz
Box 355845
Seattle, WA 98195-5845**

*Students will be notified of their acceptance by Oct. 10, 2008.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact:

Reuben Deleon 206-697-5434; rbd2@u.washington.edu

Michael Schulze-Oechtering 206-331-8451; masomac@u.washington.edu

Francisca Burgos 206-384-1544; fsb2@u.washington.edu

**Encouraging Minority People to Overcome With Education and Respect
E.M.P.O.W.E.R.
Application and Consent Form**

**E.M.P.O.W.E.R. is supported by:
University of Washington Board of Regents
& Office of Minority Affairs**

Please provide the following information for both the student and parent/guardian.

Student Information:

Student Name: _____ Male Female

Date of Birth: _____

Academic Interest(s) _____

Address: _____

_____ Street City Zip

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

High School _____ Cumulative G.P.A. _____ Grade
Level _____

Ethnicity (Optional): _____

Student Signature Date

Would you be interested in a free SAT course? (yes/no) _____

If you are interested in taking the SAT what time in the year would work best for you? (summer/
during school year) _____

How did you hear about the EMPOWER program?

Parent/Guardian Information:

Parent/Guardian

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

—

Day Phone: (____) _____

Evening Phone: (____) _____

If unable to reach parent/guardian, please contact:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Day Phone: (____) _____

Evening Phone: (____) _____

Do you qualify for free or reduced lunch? (yes or no) _____

Does either of your parents possess a bachelor's degree? (yes or no) _____

By signing this form I certify that my child has permission to apply to the E.M.P.O.W.E.R. program.

Parent Signature

Date

The completed application must include the following: **1. Application Form 2. Official High School Transcript 3. Resume 4. Two Letters of Recommendation 5. 2 Essay Responses**
Please return all documentation to the University of Washington as soon as possible but no later than **Monday September 15, 2008 for Seniors and Tuesday September 30, 2008 for Juniors.**
Please mail forms to:

**E.M.P.O.W.E.R. Program
394 Schmitz
Box 355845
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-5845**