

Campus Chapter Program

Audubon Staff FAQs

What is the Campus Chapter Program?

The Campus Chapter Program is a new initiative aimed to engage passionate college-aged students with bird conservation and advocacy on campuses across the United States while providing meaningful, hands-on opportunities that build skills, relationships, and resumes.

Why is Audubon reaching out to college & university students?

To continue to protect birds and the places they need, Audubon will need to nurture the next generation of conservation leaders, advocates, communicators, scientists— and more. The campus chapter program will help us achieve our ambitious goals. By engaging institutions of higher learning, Audubon will diversify its base and create succession for leadership.

Are there efforts being made to engage with students of color or minority serving institutions?

Yes! Supporting Audubon's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Mission is essential. Audubon Fund II Fellow - Raymond Sessley is a member of our team. Leads outreach efforts to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as well as Minority Serving Institutions. Through his work, Ray will help establish campus chapters at these schools. For more questions reading his effort, contact Raymond Sessley: rsessley@audubon.org

Who do I contact for more information?

Student Outreach Associate; Gustavo Figueroa at campuschapters@audubon.org, or visit Audubon.org/campuschapters for more information.

How much time do we (me and my staff) need to devote to this program?

The most common question we hear from state offices and staff has to do with the amount of time they will need to invest in this program. Staff is encouraged to pass along information about the campus chapter program to connections you have on campus; you are not expected to lead them through every step of the process.

Here are two critical points to keep in mind:

1. Campus chapters succeed because of strong buy-in from students. The intention is for you to support, or coach these students as they identify themselves and organically develop their chapters. Though you may, Audubon staff is not expected to expend significant time, energy, and resources to recruit students or faculty and staff.
2. Successful campus chapter programs have the opportunity to significantly impact, support and strengthen the conservation and advocacy work your team is already doing. Building partnerships with colleges, universities and students is a great way to advance your goals.

I know of a conservation club on campus. Does it qualify for this Program?

Yes! Audubon would love to recognize their work. As part of the Audubon network, Campus Chapters can access tools and resources, grant opportunities-- and even for scholarships to events, like our biennial convention. Of course, being a campus chapter leader will help build their skill set and resume, too!

As the club is already acknowledged by their school, it is one step closer to becoming a campus chapter. Please encourage them to apply.