Executive Summary (1600 character limit, approx. 250 words or less)

Orientation and Transition Programs is consistently changing the student experience and aiming to help them feel more connected to campus and to peers. The funding we are requesting will go towards supporting Husky Connections, a program that will be tied into orientation programming for a total of $3,600. Husky connections is an evidence-based program, from Project Connect. Husky Connections helps students connect with one another and make friends through a series of 6 sessions where students participate in different thought provoking questions to make them think deeper about one another and about their peers. These sessions are peer facilitated led by certified Project Connect facilitators, who are currently Orientation Leaders. The goal of this program is to bridge friendships and connections. This will be tied into orientation in how we talk to students about staying connected, making friends, and how to make the most of their experience. Funding for orientation and programs like Husky Connections will enhance the experience of all new students coming to UWB. Funding for this program will also allow us to use the ARC and continue funding other extremely impactful programs like the Peer Coaching program.

Need for Program (1600 character limit, approx. 250 words or less)

As we know from assessment conducted from Project Connect, a top priority for students is making friends, and one of UWB’s highest priorities ensuring student’s connectedness and sense of belonging. Through Husky Connections, we can address and combat feelings of loneliness students might be experiencing. Through building positive peer relationships we are helping something that is essential to not only their UWB experience, but to their health. The funding for both of these initiatives is based on the need to continue growing a positive, inclusive, and connected community. Additionally, it will expose students to a diverse group of students, as this is a program open to all students. With the growth of the program we plan to certify more facilitators across campus, like the Resident Advisors (RAs) from Housing and Residential Life. This will allow students to become familiar with different aspects of our community and create a wider reach to positively impact students.

Is this a new request? Partial
What on your request is new or has changed?

Last year our orientation programming request focused on pronoun pins and New Student Networks. This orientation programming request focuses on Husky Connections as tied within orientation programming.

Strategic Plan (1000 character limit, approx. 150 words or less)

Orientation programming will change, but key goals of orientation remain the same, to help students easily transition and feel welcomed at UWB. This funding includes Husky Connections. As mentioned earlier, Husky Connections is a peer facilitated program that prioritizes students’ sense of belonging, helps them build connections and friendship, and give them a connection to campus. Husky Connections has become a staple program in OTP that student leaders and participants alike have learned to love so much, that they are choosing to participate in multiple sessions. Husky Connections feeds into the goals and vision we have for OTP programs, to help students transition and make connections. Funding has a large impact on the vision, without it, we will not be able to accomplish these goals to help students feel better connected to the institution. We plan to tie this into orientation programming, highlighting the ways to get involved, get connected, and contribute to the campus community. Our plan includes certifying more facilitators across campus and expose students to different people and facilitators across campus. This funding will help OTP across all programs including Peer Coaching and allowing us to use the ARC.

Assessment (1600 character limit, approx. 250 words or less)

To measure success of our OTP programs we send out surveys. Surveys include demographics, qualitative and quantitative questions. Qualitative data allows us to hear directly from the students what they enjoyed about programming, what they didn’t like, and to hear directly about their experiences. Demographics and quantitative data allows us to see who is participating in our programming. These surveys will allow us to compare the success of the programs, and see if we need additional funding or if we need to change programming to improve. We conduct surveys for all programming. We have already began to take qualitative data and feedback from participants and facilitators from previous sessions that have loved the program, and want to keep participating.
Programming/Events

This fee will go towards the Husky Connections supplies and programming. Including the Project Connect cards deck packs and certification training for 20 facilitators. The supplies for Husky Connections include the card deck of questions and facilitation guide which cost $200 and the certification for 20 facilitators that comes out to $3,400 for a total of $3,600.

Total Amount (please note the total dollar value)
$3,600

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