Dear Student:

On behalf of El Centro at Colorado State University, we would like to encourage you to apply for our annual Somos Rams Freshman Leadership Retreat held at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park. The dates and times for retreat are…

- **Friday February 26**th (leaving CSU at 4:00 pm)
- **Saturday February 27**th (breakfast at 7:00am)
- **Sunday February 28**th (returning to CSU at 4:00pm)

The Somos Rams Leadership Retreat will focus on understanding how Latino cultural values and traditions can positively impact the academic and overall success and retention of freshmen Latino/a students. Through participation in the retreat the students will increase their knowledge regarding resources at CSU aimed at assisting them to be successful. More specifically, the five primary areas of the Somos Rams Leadership Retreat are to assist CSU first-year Latino/a students with transition issues, academic success resources and support systems, family isolation, exposure to CSU Latino faculty/staff/mentors, and leadership development.

Along with the application we ask for a $15 Personal Investment Fee (PIF), which will be refunded to you if you attend all three days of the retreat. The purpose of the PIF is for you as a student to be committed to attending the conference once you’ve submitted a complete application. If this fee is hindering your decision to attend the conference, please inform us and we will discuss the options. Keep in mind that we do provide transportation, food, and lodging throughout the retreat.

Please submit the attached application and $15 Personal Investment Fee (PIF) before or on October 23rd, only 25 CSU first-year Latino/a students will be selected to attend the retreat. Please also attend the mandatory Somos Rams Informational Session on Tuesday, December 1st at 5pm in El Centro (LSC 225). At this time we will provide you more specific information regarding items to bring, where to meet, as well as other pertinent information you will need. If you cannot attend due to class, please let us know and we can set up a one-on-one meeting with you.

Again, we are very excited to share this wonderful leadership development opportunity with you. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email me at gsalazar@colostate.edu or call El Centro at (970) 491-5722.

Sincerely,

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Please submit the completed application and a $15 Personal Investment Fee (PIF) by October 23rd. Also, attend the informational meeting on Tuesday, December 1st at 5:00 p.m. in El Centro. If you have any questions email Lupe Salazar at gsalazar@colostate.edu or call the office at (970) 491-5722.

*The dates of the retreat are Friday, February 26th 2016 (4:00 p.m.) to Sunday, February 28th 2016 (4:00 p.m.)*

**General Information:**

Name: ___________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Email: ___________________________________________ CSU ID: _________________________________

Ethnicity/Race (optional): ___________________________ Gender (optional): _______________________

Major: ___________________________________________ Minor: __________________________________

Career Goals: ______________________________________

Are you taking any medication we should know about? _______________________________________________

Do you need any special accommodations due to an injury or disability? _______________________________

Please list the classes you have after 3:00pm on Fridays: ___________________________________________

Please circle your t-shirt size: S M L XL XXL

Do you have any friends attending Somos? If so, please list their names: ________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

**Emergency Contact Info:**

Name: ___________________________________________ Phone: _________________________________

Relationship: __________________________________________

**Application Questions**

Please type your answers to the following questions (12pt Times New Roman double-spaced).

1. What do you hope to gain from the Somos Rams leadership retreat? (250 word minimum)

2. Why do you believe you should be selected as a participant? What particular strengths, experiences, and involvement would you bring to the retreat? (250 word minimum)

3. What does the word *leadership* mean to you? (50 word minimum)

**Important Note:**

By signing this application form and if I am selected to participate, I am committed to the three-day retreat. I am also aware that I will need to submit a this application and a $15 personal investment fee by October 23rd, 2015.

Print Name: ___________________________________________ Date: _________________________________

Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: _________________________________