

Brutus Ferris



Official Application

The Bulldog Mascot is a tradition among Ferris State University sports fans and has been Ferris State's official mascot since 1930. During a Ferris Institute basketball game a sportswriter was impressed with Coach Bill McElwain's team's defensive play and described the tough defense as "hanging on like a bulldog."

After an eight-game winning streak Coach McElwain began referring to his team as the "Bulldogs." The name stuck and Brutus the mascot was born.

The Bulldog Mascot helps create excitement and promotes the University and Bulldog Athletics at a variety of events. The Bulldog Mascot is expected to work alone and with the cheer squad, dance team, and pep band to get the crowd involved, as well as to interact closely with fans. The Mascot plays an important role in promoting Bulldog Athletics and building strong community relations. The Mascot Program, administered by the Student Alumni Gold Club and FSU athletics, is currently seeking qualified applicants for Spring of 2020 with training and some appearances beginning this winter. Applicants should be:

- Leaders
- Spontaneous
- Entertainers
- Dedicated
- Disciplined
- Healthy (good physical condition)
- Creative
- Responsible

If you meet this criteria and have a great love for Ferris State University and Bulldog Athletics then you are encouraged to apply. Mascot responsibilities and duties, as well as scholarship funds, are divided among all students serving as mascots.

Appearances are made at all varsity-sporting events and several post-season events, which may require travel. The Mascot also appears at all Admissions Office Dawg Day events, Homecoming events, and alumni events. Other appearances will be made for a variety of charity, University, and community events. Students serving as the mascot will become official members of the Student Alumni Gold Club and will be required to attend their bi-weekly meetings, as well as be involved in other events they sponsor.

The Bulldog Mascot also maintains several social media outlets and must serve these outlets as a good steward for the University and the program. Assistance is provided by members of the bulldog mascot committee and bulldog mascot coordinator which are members of SAGC.

Benefits of serving as the Bulldog Mascot include the following:

- Scholarship Funds (depends on the number of students serving as the mascot)
- Ferris State University apparel
- Varsity sports tickets
- Access to the Bulldog Varsity Athletics Weight Room and trainer
- Other benefits as they become available, such as attendance at special events arranged by the Alumni Office. (For example, the mascot traveled to Florida in 2012 for the Frozen Four hockey tournament)

If interested in serving as the Bulldog Mascot, please submit the attached application:

by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, October 21st, 2019

to the Alumni Relations Office

Prakken Room 101

Interviews will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26th.

If chosen for a tryout the mascot coordinator will contact you, the week following the interviews.

Try-outs will be held on Oct 26th.



2018 Ferris State University
Bulldog Mascot Candidate Application

Please Print

Name_____

Ferris State Student ID Number_____

Address_____

Phone_____

Driver License #_____

E-Mail Address_____

Projected Major_____

Expected Graduation Date_____

Cumulative GPA _____

Height_____Weight _____

Shoe Size_____Shirt Size: S M L XL Waist Size: _____

Serving as a Bulldog Mascot requires a considerable commitment of time, energy, and effort. This includes attendance at practice sessions, Bulldog Varsity Athletic sporting events, Admission Office Dawg Days, and other special events.

Your signature below indicates that you understand the nature of this position and you are willing and able to make the commitment to the terms of the contract stated below.

I certify I meet all of the following requirements:

1. I will be a full-time undergraduate student (taking a minimum of 12 credits) at Ferris State University for the entire fall and spring semesters.

2. I currently have a minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA and do hereby release my academic transcripts to the Mascot Coordinator and Advisor if requested.

3. I am in good standing with Ferris State University and not on any type of academic or disciplinary probation.

4. I have no health or physical issues which would hamper my ability to perform as the Bulldog Mascot or which might cause performing as the Bulldog Mascot to be unsafe to my health.

5. I am covered by a personal medical insurance plan and a vehicle insurance plan.

Furthermore, I understand:

1. If selected, I agree to serve the Bulldog Mascot for the entire academic semester, including some summer obligations, unless alternate arrangements are made with the Mascot Coordinator. The majority of appearances as the Bulldog Mascot will be during the school semester on weekends, or in the evenings.

2. I am expected to participate in all practice sessions, team meetings, team projects, pep rallies, games, and all other school activities as designated by the Mascot Coordinator and Advisors.

3. I must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0.

4. I must maintain the social media accounts for Brutus Ferris. I will maintain these accounts with the assistance of the Bulldog Mascot Committee.

5. The physical demands of being the Bulldog Mascot require that I maintain an adequate level of physical fitness and that I pass a physical administered by a Ferris State University Athletic Department trainer. I must also be covered by personal medical insurance while I serve as the Bulldog Mascot (you will need to provide proof of insurance at the time of your physical).

6. Being the Bulldog Mascot is a major personal commitment of my non-academic time and CANNOT be placed secondary to any other non-academic activity. Furthermore, last minute appearances/events may typically arise in which the Bulldog must be present. (Schedule flexibility is a MUST year round.)

I must have a note from a family or school physician to be excused from any assigned function, unless approved in advance by the Advisors or Mascot Coordinator. (If for any reason a Mascot is unable to attend a function they have committed to, he/she is responsible for finding another team member to replace them.)

7. I will maintain a satisfactory level of performance throughout the entire semester as prescribed by the Mascot Coordinator and Advisors.

8. I am responsible for the care, cleaning, and upkeep of the Mascot costume, uniforms and props. Ferris State University is responsible for all the financial obligations regarding these items, as well as transportation costs to and from Mascot appearances when they are off the Ferris State University campus.

9. The Bulldog Mascot plays an important role in the entire athletic department and its athletics programs and community. As such, I will always know I am an official representative of Ferris State University, its students, faculty, staff, and alumni. I will always conduct myself in a manner to uphold the character, tradition, integrity, and spirit of Ferris State University. I also agree not to reveal my identity or the identities of other students serving as the mascot. The policy of secrecy will be strictly adhered to as required by tradition at the University.

10. I will adhere to all GLIAC, WCHA and NCAA rules pertaining to mascots.

11. Failure to adhere to any of the items within this contract will result in the suspension or dismissal from the Bulldog Mascot Program.

IF SELECTED TO REPRESENT FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY AS THE BULLDOG MASCOT, I WILL FULLY ADHERE TO THE CONTENTS OF THIS CONTRACT.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE

I. In a few sentences address the following questions on a separate piece of paper and attach it to this form:

1. Why do you want to be the Ferris State University Bulldog Mascot?

2. In your opinion, describe the role of the Bulldog Mascot at sporting, student recruiting and community events.

3. What qualities do you possess that will make you an outstanding Bulldog?

II. In order to determine your eligibility we may need to confirm your cumulative GPA with Ferris State University. Please indicate your consent by signing the statement below.

I permit the Ferris State University Athletics Department, for the purpose of determining eligibility, to obtain my grade information from Ferris State University.

Full name (printed)

Signature

Date

*****III. Please attach a copy of your class
schedule to this application. *****

Deliver completed application by October 21st to: Alumni
Relations Reception Desk
Room 101, Prakken Building

For more information, contact Brandi Behrenwald at brandibehrenwald@ferris.edu or at (231)
591-3828

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