



# 2025 WELCOME WEEK REP APPLICATION



Hello hello! Thank you for your interest in being a 2025 Welcome Week Rep! We're looking forward to getting to know you more through your application and interview!

To successfully submit your application, please ensure you've completed the following steps:

- 1) Confirm that you are eligible to apply for this role. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must have been a McMaster Engineering student for **at least one (1) year by August 2025**.
- 2) Fill out the applicant information and the application question portions of this document.
- 3) Submit your responses into [this google form](#), both directly in the form and attached as a PDF, by **Thursday, January 23rd, 2025 @ 11:59pm EST**.
  - a) This form will not be accepting submissions until **Thursday, January 9th, 2025 @ 11:59pm EST**. This will be after our first Rep information session (held virtually on teams) on **Thursday, January 9th, 2025 @ 7:00pm EST**. Also, we will have our second Rep information session (held in person with the location announced in further communications through Instagram @macengww) on **Tuesday, January 14th, 2025 @ 7:00pm**.
- 4) Assemble a tryout group consisting of 4-6 people and sign up for a tryout slot using [this link](#) by **Thursday, January 23rd, 2025 @ 11:59pm EST**.
  - a) **This link will not accept sign-ups until after the first Rep Information Session, which will be Thursday, January 9th, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. EST.**

*Note: If you cannot attend your tryout time for any reason or require any accommodations, please email us at [coocs@macengsociety.ca](mailto:coocs@macengsociety.ca) and we will make arrangements with you!*

If you'd like to know more about the role/process or need help finding a group, please see the following resources below:

- Tryout Process FAQ: [☰ Tryouts 2025: FAQ](#)
- 2025 Welcome Week Rep Roles and Responsibilities document:  
[☰ Welcome Week Rep Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- Join the Microsoft Teams: 2f6ze1v

We look forward to hearing what you have to say! If you have any questions throughout the process, please don't hesitate to email us at [coocs@macengsociety.ca](mailto:coocs@macengsociety.ca).

Best,  
The 2025 Orientation Committee

## **Applicant Information**

Full Name: <b>Sepanta Kamali</b>	Program and Year: <b>Computer Science Level 1</b>
First Name Pronunciation: <b>seh-PAN-tah</b>	Projected Graduation Date: <b>April 2028</b>
Pronouns: <b>He/Him/His</b>	Years as a WW Rep (if applicable): <b>N/A</b>
McMaster Email Address: <b>kamals19@mcmaster.ca</b>	Date & Time of Tryout: <b>Feb 7, 2025 @8:20 pm</b>
	Group Tryout Name: <b>Awesome Blossom</b>

**Please attach an easily identifiable picture of yourself with your favourite mug or cup.**



*Your photo will have no impact on the consideration of your application at all. We only ask for a photo to be able to recognize and better remember you during tryouts!*

**Will you be able to attend meetings in Hamilton during the summer months (May-August 2025) if necessary? (Your summer availability will not affect your chances of making the rep team).**

**Yes, I will be living in Hamilton during the summer, so I will be able to attend meetings.**

## Application Questions (the REAL ones)

**Q0:** Have you been a McMaster Engineering Welcome Week Rep before? Please respond “Yes” or “No” (***your answer to this question will NOT affect your chances of making the rep team***).

No

**Note:** If you have repped before feel free to talk about that experience in your application in addition to other relevant experiences. If you have not repped before feel free to talk about any experiences you have that are relevant to this role.

**Q1:** Why are you applying to be a Welcome Week Rep this year, and what is your main goal?

Welcome Week is such an amazing and memorable time for everyone, especially first year students. It's the moment when they move into university for the first time, starting a big transition in their lives, from high school to university. Welcome Week Reps are the first impression they'll have of what university life is like. That's why it's so important for us to create a positive, welcoming, and unforgettable experience for them.

One of the main reasons I'm applying to be a rep is because of how much the Welcome Week Reps helped me during my first year. I became friends with so many Welcome Week Reps, and even after Welcome Week was over, they were there for me, helping me adjust to university life, figure out my courses, and sharing advice that made my first year so much easier and more enjoyable. That support and sense of belonging I felt during my Welcome Week really stuck with me, and I want to do the same for the incoming first years. I want them to feel as welcomed, supported, and connected as I did.

Another important reason I'm applying is that I'm in the computer science program, which often feels underrepresented in the Faculty of Engineering. During my Welcome Week, I noticed there were plenty of engineering reps, which was great, but very few computer science reps. This made it difficult to find someone who truly understood my program and could answer specific questions about my courses or the computer science-related events during the week. I often had to search for the few computer science reps that were around, and it made me realize how important it is to have more reps from our program. That's why I want to step up and apply to be a rep, to make sure the incoming first year computer science students have someone they can turn to without feeling overlooked. Whether it's answering their questions, helping them navigate their courses, or offering advice to make their transition smoother and easier, I want to ensure they feel represented, supported, and like they truly belong in the Faculty of Engineering. I think by having more computer science reps, we can create a better, more inclusive experience for future students in our program.

I'm really passionate about Welcome Week because it's a chance to help first year students to build connections, create memories, and ease their transition into university life.

**Q2:** Share three qualities that would lend to your success as a Welcome Week Rep. Provide an example of when you have embodied each of these (i.e. one example per quality).

- 1) I think one of my most important skills that would help me succeed as a Welcome Week rep is my strong communication skills. I'm great at starting conversations with random people and turning those interactions into meaningful friendships. For example, during Welcome Week, I was walking back to my residence after the concert and saw a group of people on the way. I started a conversation with them, and what began as a quick chat turned into a genuine connection. Ever since that night, they've become some of my closest friends. Being able to approach and connect with people so easily is something I'm really proud of. As a Welcome Week rep, I know I can use this skill to make first years feel welcome and comfortable.
- 2) Another skill that would help me succeed as a Welcome Week Rep would be my leadership skills. I enjoy stepping up and guiding others, especially if things aren't going as planned. For example, I led a team of four people for the 2024 McMaster Engineering Competition, working on a project that we had to finish by an eight-hour deadline. Midway through, we fell behind schedule, and tensions were high as teammates started arguing. I stepped in, calmed my teammates down, resolved the disagreements, and reorganized tasks to get us back on track. We managed to finish the project and hand it in on time. I'm confident that, as a Welcome Week Rep, I would bring the same leadership ability to handle any unexpected challenges, keep things organized, and ensure first year students feel supported and have an enjoyable Welcome Week experience.
- 3) The third and final skill that would help me succeed as a Welcome Week rep is that I'm naturally an energetic and hype person who loves getting people excited. At high school events, I was always the one hyping up the crowd and making sure everyone got involved. For example, when I was part of a team during some high school intramural games and events, we had to cheer for our group and keep the energy high. I took the lead, cheering loudly, hyping up the crowd, and making sure everyone was engaged. By the end, it made the entire experience way more fun for everyone. For Welcome Week reps, especially the red suits, being loud, enthusiastic, and full of energy is so important. You have to set the tone and get everyone excited, and I know I can bring that same energy to every event. Whether it's cheering at a game or hyping up first year students during activities, I'd make sure the energy is always high so that everyone has an unforgettable experience starting university. That being said, I also know how to bring myself down to earth when needed. While I love being energetic and enthusiastic, I know that not everyone likes to be in high-energy environments, especially first year students who might already feel overwhelmed or uneasy in such a big transition. I have the self-control to tone it down when the situation calls for it, focusing instead on making first years feel comfortable and supported. As a Welcome Week Rep, I would try my best to bring that balance to the role and make sure that every student whether they're excited and outgoing or feeling nervous and quiet, has a positive and unforgettable experience starting university.

**Q3:** Describe a time when you were a role model or someone was a role model to you. What did you learn from this experience and how will it help you as a Welcome Week Rep?

During my Welcome Week, one of the Welcome Week Reps who I met, became a role model to me. He was very supportive, energetic, and always made time to answer my questions and check in on how I was settling for university. What stood out to me was how he created a sense of belonging, not just for me, but for everyone around him. It was clear that he genuinely cared about helping first years feel included and comfortable, and it really helped me with my transition. From that experience I learned the importance of being present, approachable, and supportive, especially during a time that first year students might feel overwhelmed. As a Welcome Week Rep, I want to make sure first year students, especially those in computer science, feel supported and represented during this big transition from high school to university. Being from a smaller program within the engineering umbrella at McMaster, I know how important it is to have someone who understands your program and can answer your questions without making you feel overlooked. My goal is to help create an environment where they feel they belong and can start building the friendships and memories that will make their university experience truly memorable. I want to show them that they're part of a community that's here to support and represent them from day one.

**Q4:** What is one piece of advice/past experience you would want to share with yourself going into first year? How do you think this would help a first-year student? (This can be academic or non-academic related.)

If I could give one piece of advice to myself going into the first year, it would be to put myself out there and take every opportunity to try new things and meet new people. When you first move into university, it's a completely new environment and you probably don't know anyone. It might feel lonely or overwhelming at first, but the best way to meet new people and make friends is to step out of your comfort zone and get involved. For example, during Welcome Week and the first couple of weeks of school, I went to lots of different events, talked to people, and ended up making some of my best friends here. Those simple moments and conversations have turned into amazing friendships that have made my university experience so much better. I realized that just saying "hi" or joining activities can make a huge difference in building connections. I would also tell first years to go and explore different opportunities out there, join clubs, apply for teams, and get involved in anything that interests them, because that's how you can find your people, try new things, and make the most of your university experience. As a Welcome Week Rep, I want to encourage first year students to take that step. I want to be there to support them, make them feel comfortable, and help them connect with others, just like how one of the reps in Welcome Week introduced me to someone at an event, and that person is now my best friend here. I want to create those moments for first years, where just a simple introduction could lead to a lasting friendship. I will make it my goal to help first years feel comfortable, meeting each other, and start making friendships and memories that will make their first year experience unforgettable.

## Application Questions (the FUN ones)

The responses to the following questions are not graded, however, we remind you to keep your responses appropriate and respectful. Have FUN with them!

**Q100: Now for the FUN part! Tell us your most embarrassing story! 😬😬 (Please note that ONLY Committee will read your story, and this story will be the basis of your Rep name)**

Ok, so this is hands down the most embarrassing thing ever happened to me. Back in grade 8, I woke up one morning feeling kinda sick, like I wasn't 100% sure, but I thought, "Eh, whatever, it's not that bad." I didn't say anything to my parents because, honestly, I didn't want to deal with the entire "stay home, take medicine, blah blah blah" routine. So I let my mom drop me off at school and I thought I should be fine. The moment I got out of the car and started walking across the parking lot, I felt this very bad stomach ache creeping up. I thought to myself, "Okay, not a big deal, I'll just let out a little fart and I'll feel better." And since I was still outside in the fresh air and there was nobody around me, I figured it was the perfect moment. Well, let me tell you, It wasn't a normal, average fart, It was epic! This performance of mine lasted like 30 seconds straight. It was unreal! But then... the realization hit me. In the middle of my 30-second long symphony, I was like, "Wait... wait... nooooooo..." I definitely, straight up sh\*\* my pants in the middle of the school parking lot. So now I'm standing there, frozen, in the middle of the parking lot, trying to process what the hell just happened. I looked around, my Mom's car was gone and I was supposed to be in class in five minutes. The only thing I could think of was to waddle my way to the main office and explain to the VP and ask for help. Which, let me tell you, was the single most awkward conversation of my life. I get to the main office, and I'm like, "Uh, I need to talk to the VP." The secretary calls him over, and I'm just standing there, panicking, hoping they won't smell my sh\*\*y pants, and wondering how to start the conversation with the VP. When he gets there, I just go, "So, uh... I had a bit of an accident..." and explained the entire story. I remember he was trying so hard to keep a straight face. His eyes are kind of squinting, and I know he wants to laugh. But somehow, he keeps it together and says, "Alright..., go sit on the heater over there to dry off, and I'll call your parents to bring you some clothes." So now I'm sitting on the big heater in the middle of the main office for a solid half an hour. My pants are cooked now and everybody walking by is giving me this confused look like, "What the hell is going on with this kid sitting on the heater?" Some of them started laughing and I couldn't even blame them, because I was laughing too. Eventually, my mom showed up with some clothes for me and I went to the bathroom and cleaned myself and changed my clothes. This is a story that I will never forget and it's still the funniest and most ridiculous thing that has ever happened to me.

Answer 2 of the following 3 questions.

**Q99: Potatoes are most enjoyed in which form? Why?**

Oh definitely fries! No competition! I think fries and mashed potatoes are the Hemsworth brothers of the potato world. Fries is Chris Hemsworth, the golden, crispy superstar that



everyone loves. On the other hand, mashed potatoes are like Liam Hemsworth, they're there, you'll eat them if they're around, but they're not hyping you like fries.

**Q98: How many owls would you have to see in a day to feel worried?**

So one time I saw two owls chilling in a tree and they were definitely on a little owl date. You could tell, they were perched all close, probably whispering some sweet owl things to each other. I was being an idiot curious, so I decided to walk a little closer to check them out. A big mistake! One of them turned its head all the way around and kept staring at me, like I had just ruined their romantic dinner. Then the other one joined in and now I had two owls glaring at me like I owed them some money. At that point, I didn't even know if they wanted to attack me or if they were mad at me because I ruined their date. Ever since that day, if I see two or more owls, especially if they look like they're a couple, I'd run as fast as I can. I don't want to ruin another relationship and take the risk of getting cursed. Nope, not worth it at all!

**Q97: Pick one Committee Member and make up a story about how they got their rep name (max. 250 words). Use the table below as a reference!**

Committee Member	Pronouns	Rep Name
Ainsley	He/Him	I don't wanna TACO bout it
Angela	She/Her	Georgian Slay
Cass	She/Her	Prep 101
Eliana	She/Her	Pee My Baby
Emma	She/Her	[insert story here] 🙄
Jules	She/Her	Spotless in Seattle
John	He/Him	Winnie the Who?
Kristina	She/Her	Rapuzzled
Kyle	He/Him	Puckin' Right Bud
Maddy	She/Her	Eau de Toilet
Marryam	She/Her	Optical Confusion
Meghan	She/Her	Birkenflop
Michael	He/Him	Backyard Blowout
Sophia	She/Her	Pasta La Vista

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this application! We are looking forward to hearing what you have to say. Please remember to ALSO submit your answers to [this google form](#) and sign up for a tryout slot using [this link](#) by **January 23rd, 2025 @ 11:59pm EST**.

And as always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email us at [coocs@macengsociety.ca](mailto:coocs@macengsociety.ca).