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Clear Spring, MD

March 12, 2026

Hiring Staff

Compass Center for Career and Calling

Northwestern College

101 7th Street SW

Orange City, IA 51301

Dear Compass Center Hiring Committee:

I am excited to apply for the Franken Fellow: Peer Career Mentor position for the 2026–2027 academic year. As a Northwestern College student pursuing a bachelor of arts in biology and secondary education, I am deeply committed to helping others grow, explore their potential, and prepare for life after college. The opportunity to serve as a peer mentor—guiding fellow students through resume writing, interview preparation, and career exploration – aligns directly with my values and the leadership experiences I have developed during my time at NWC.

Being a member of the Northwestern College Women’s Varsity Soccer Team and a participant in Accelerate Siouxland have been formative parts of my college journey. Both teams have sharpened my ability to collaborate, encourage teammates, and hold myself accountable, skills that translate directly into the kind of supportive, team-oriented environment the Franken Fellows foster. Additionally, as a member of the Accelerate Siouxland cohort, I demonstrated a commitment to professional development and community engagement, regularly participating in leadership opportunities that challenged me to grow and invest in the people around me.

My education practicum at Unity High School gave me hands-on experience supporting diverse learners in one-on-one and small group settings, completing over 100 hours of instructional assistance and classroom management. This experience taught me how to meet people where they are, ask thoughtful questions to draw out their strengths, and create a welcoming environment where they feel encouraged to take the next steps. These are exactly the skills I would bring to my one-on-one appointments with NWC students in the Compass Center.

My work experience has also helped me develop strong communication skills and professionalism. At Scooter’s Coffee, I deliver friendly, efficient service in a high-volume environment, balancing multiple responsibilities while maintaining a positive attitude. In my marketing role at Texas Roadhouse, I coordinated guest experiences and supported local outreach initiatives, gaining experience in communicating clearly and building connections with a wide variety of people. Both roles have prepared me to represent the Compass Center with warmth, professionalism, and approachability.

I am also drawn to the research and learning culture embedded in the Franken Fellow role. Through coursework including prairie and bumble bee ecological research and bacterial genome annotation, I have developed strong attention to detail, data literacy, and the ability to engage deeply with complex material. I am bilingual in English and Spanish, which will allow me to better serve Northwestern’s diverse student community. I am enthusiastic about collaborating with fellow Franken Fellows to plan campus events, supporting the Compass Center staff, and contributing a student leader’s perspective to the team. I am fully committed to the expectations of the role, including the 2026–2027 academic year commitment, weekly team meetings, and the August orientation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you further about how I can contribute to the Compass Center’s mission. I look forward to the interview process and to the possibility of joining the Franken Fellow team.

Sincerely,

Genesis Maldonado