



CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING

Mission

The Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) prepares students for lifelong civic and social responsibility.

Vision

CCEL envisions community-engaged learning as core to the MSU mission and that all Spartans contribute to a culture of social good.

Guiding Principles

As part of Michigan State University, CCEL embodies the core values of the university. In addition, we are committed to the following guiding principles:

- **Partnership** — Encouraging the development of authentic relationships focused on assets, reciprocity, and a shared commitment to social justice
- **Community Building** — Fostering connections, collective space, and experiences to encourage authenticity, acceptance, and belonging
- **Leadership Development** — Collaborating with students as they grow in their civic identities and their capacity to intentionally contribute to a common good
- **Critical Reflection** — Guiding community-engaged learners as they make meaning of experiences and expand understanding of their roles in social change
- **Social Innovation** — Embracing inclusive and collaborative approaches that lead to systemic, social, and environmental change



Spartan Point of Pride

MSU is ranked #1 among all public institutions in service-learning by *US News & World Report*.

What is Community-Engaged Learning?

Community-engaged learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community partnerships with instruction and critical reflection to enrich the student learning experience, teach civic and social responsibility, and strengthen communities.

The Center for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) is committed to supporting students, faculty/staff, and community partners in the following ways:

- Advocacy – Communicating support of an idea or cause and collecting evidence to support one's position
- Deliberative and Reflective Dialogue – Exchanging different ideas and approaches around issues and learning about the experiences and stories of others by listening actively
- Democratic Engagement – Mobilizing yourself and others to participate in and influence public policy through formal political channels
- Philanthropy – Donating money to increase the well-being of humankind, advance another social good, or support nonprofit or community organizations
- Student Involvement and Leadership Development – Mobilizing peers to serve and work collaboratively to facilitate positive social change with community
- Social Innovation – Developing and deploying fairer and more sustainable solutions to social problems
- Volunteering – Giving time and talent over the short or long term to directly assist and address needs of community organizations

Students

CCEL links students to curricular community-engaged learning (CEL) and opportunities beyond the classroom. It also cultivates and maintains relationships with community partners to connect community needs with student interests. Services and programs offered to students may include:

- CEL workshops and resources to help students gain a better understanding of how to become an engaged community member
- College and CEL support (Service-Learning Honors Option, Social Innovation Track for Entrepreneurship)
- America Reads/America Counts community work-study programs
- Community Engagement Scholars Program
- Alternative Break programs, Days of Service programs, and support for community service-focused registered student organizations (RSOs)
- Preprofessional CEL opportunities (hospital positions)
- MSUvote Initiative and democratic engagement
- Serves as an AmeriCorps VISTA site focused on enhancing K-12 educational support
- Student volunteer opportunities posted throughout the year on the SpartansVolunteer platform

Community Partners

Community partners play a key role as co-educators in community-engaged learning. The Center has a long history of cultivating and facilitating sustained, reciprocal relationships with partners through engagement, convening, workshops, and dialogue.

CCEL elevates and highlights these partnerships in the annual Community-Engaged Learning Index available for download from the Center for Community Engaged Learning website.



ccel.msu.edu



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