

HOW READY IS YOUR ORGANIZATION FOR SERVICE-LEARNING?

There is no simple checklist of what you need to do to get involved in service-learning. It all depends on your organization’s realities, needs in the community, and available partners. Here are some of the things that are important to have in place-or to create- when developing a program. For each one, mark the level of readiness you perceive. Then look for patterns.

<p>1) What is your experience working with volunteers (youth and/or adults) on other projects? Great extent Some Extent None</p> <p>2) How much experience does your organization have forming partnerships with other agencies, schools or businesses? Great extent Some Extent None</p> <p>3) Is someone eager to be a campaigner for service-learning and available to work with service-learning students within your organization? Eager Willing Reluctant</p> <p>4) Do you see youth as a valuable resource, and believe they will bring fresh ideas and approaches, that will help your organization better address community needs? Valuable Somewhat No Value</p> <p>5) What is your accessibility to supervise service-learning students? Greatly Some None</p> <p>6) How much experience does your organization have in working with young children and/or teenagers such as in youth groups, scouts, or families? Great extent Some Extent None</p> <p>7) How diverse are the volunteer opportunities available for people of all ages in your organization? Great extent Some Extent None</p> <p>8) How much does your organization use well-defined job descriptions for volunteers? Always Sometimes Never</p>	<p>9) How open is your organization to involving youth in decision-making roles in the organization once they have shown their commitment to your organization’s mission? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>10) How readily could students apply what they would do in your organization to what they are learning in school to real-life situations? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>11) How strong are your contacts in schools that could facilitate a service-learning partnership? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>12) How willing is your organization to provide release time for staff to meet with school faculty and attend training in service-learning? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>13) How clear is your organization’s mission (with clearly defined target groups and strategies for addressing specific needs)? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>14) How appropriate and accessible are your facilities to the age and skill levels of youth who will be providing services? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>15) How flexible is your organization to design services to fit service-learning students’ schedules? Very Somewhat Not at all</p> <p>16) How prepared is your organization to spend the planning time needed to help service learning students translate their service experiences to their class-work and vice versa? Very Somewhat Not at all</p>
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