

# Student Leadership Development

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Student Leadership Development (SLD) engages our diverse students through programming, service opportunities, civic engagement initiatives, experiential learning and leadership opportunities designed to enhance their connection to the University. SLD hosts small and large scale programming designed to promote school spirit. Connect with our office (<https://www.neiu.edu/university-life/student-leadership-development/>) to learn about NEIU traditions and how you can make the most of your college experience.

## Leadership Philosophy

Student Leadership Development strives to enhance our students' college experience through student engagement. We nurture students as they emerge on campus. We guide them as they advance through their collegiate career. We support them as they develop transferable skills. We advise them as they evolve into engaged global community members. We celebrate them as they recognize their potential.

We cultivate leaders.

## What Can You Gain by Participating In Our Programs?

- Build your knowledge, skills and confidence as a leader and gain valuable experience to apply in post-college careers.
- Explore current, relevant and global issues that will spark civic engagement.
- Practice strategies for leading positive change, such as forming organizations, planning events, volunteering, fundraising and creating awareness campaigns.
- Receive recognition for your accomplishments in leadership and civic engagement.

## Leadership Development

Northeastern Illinois University is committed to graduating students who will be leaders in their professional careers and their communities. Student Leadership Development offers a wide range of training opportunities and out-of-classroom experiences that encourage NEIU students to assess and develop the skills needed for effective leadership and multicultural understanding.

## Civic Engagement

Do you want to make a difference in your community? We can help you find the right opportunity! No matter your interests, major, experience-level or time constraints, there is something for you. Get involved with the outside community through service days, Alternative Spring Break trips or volunteer through one of our student-run service projects. Partner with faculty, staff and students to apply what you are learning in your courses to real world problems. Gain valuable experience that will enhance your education as you become an aware and socially responsible individual through service and social action.

Another means of civic engagement is through voting in local and national elections. We recognize the privilege that comes with voting and that not all of our students have the right. We encourage everyone who is able to participate to vote and affect positive change in society. To assist and encourage our students' participation, Student Leadership Development holds voter registration drives prior to elections and maintains TurboVote, an online voter registration site.

## Student Involvement

Student organizations represent the most visible and accessible avenue to student involvement. At Northeastern Illinois University there are more than 85 student organizations to suit a variety of interests. You will find academic, social, cultural, media, religious and community service organizations, just to name a few. To get the most from your college experience, it's important that you make time to create a plan that integrates your academic pursuits and career interests to help determine the choices you make about the time you spend outside of class. Active involvement both in and out of class contributes to your learning experience. Additionally, involvement in out-of-classroom experiences can help you develop valuable leadership and organizational skills and contribute to your marketability. Student organizations are an integral part of the student life at NEIU as well as the reflection of the diverse interests and activities of our student community.

Stop by Student Leadership Development or call us at (773) 442-4660.