

## Getting Involved in Service at UCLA

Hooray! You want to get involved in community service at UCLA! You might be wondering where to go from here. With hundreds of community service organizations at UCLA, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed. Below is an easy checklist of steps to follow when you're thinking about getting involved in service.

### Consider your passions and capacity

First of all, consider your passions, your skillset, and your capacity. Ask yourself the following questions. For a more in-depth breakdown of each question, check out Americorps' breakdown of [How To Get Involved in Service](#).

- 1) Do you have a passion?
- 2) How much time can you give?
- 3) What skills or perspectives do you bring?
- 4) Where and how do you want to serve?

We also recommend using our ethical service guide to help frame your approach to service, as well as check in with your service goals and intentions. This guide will help you make the most informed decisions about which service organizations to join.

### Do research

Second, do your research! The CSC resource guide is a great way to get a sense of the community service landscape at UCLA. Start with its breakdown of community service then take a look at its list of service orgs to get a better sense of individual organizations and the kinds of service they do. Most orgs are open to communicating with prospective service volunteers as well, so reach out via email or social media if you have any questions!

### Sign up for a few clubs!

Next, start joining some clubs! Find clubs that align with your passions and try them out. The best way to see what kind of service you're interested in is to try it and see what you think. With so many organizations at UCLA, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed by options and opportunities. Signing up for a club and seeing what you think is a great way to avoid analysis paralysis and start actually doing service!

### Reflect on your experiences

Reflection is an integral part of ethical community service. Make sure to check in with yourself and your teammates to debrief the service activity and assess both intent and impact. Journaling and debriefing out loud with teammates is a great way to actively practice reflection. Check out our ethical service guide for more information!

### Expand your service involvement (if you want!)

Signing up for leadership positions can be a great way to expand your service involvement, but it's not for everyone. If you are interested in getting more involved in your organization, we recommend talking to individuals who are in leadership roles to get a sense of what their responsibilities are like! Things always look different from the outside, so we recommend talking to individuals in your organization if you have any questions.