

Iowa State University Memorial Union
Student Activities Center

Get Involved

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Why Should You Get Involved?

Being involved is one of the more important aspects of your college education. It enables you to mature personally, socially, intellectually, and spiritually. Involvement enhances your opportunities for career development exposing you to various skills, which will help you when you graduate to find gainful employment. Giving your time and talents to an organization will not only help that group, it will make your college experience a valuable and enjoyable one.

Facts on Involvement

- A major concern of new students is how to meet people and make friends. No one can relate to 30,000 people so we attempt to find smaller groups. These groups can be student organizations, campus organizations, residence hall governments, or community service units.
- Students who become involved in campus groups and organizations are more likely to continue through graduation. The reason is that they develop ties and friendships, which help them "anchor" into the campus. This acts as a source of support during the difficult moments in a student's College career.
- You are likely to meet more people who share similar interests (i.e. drama), abilities (i.e. tutoring math), or ideals (i.e. to advocate for the poor). They can serve as reinforcement of your interests and ideology, which often leads to personal satisfaction and a greater sense of purpose.
- You will not only acquire skills and values which will enhance your growth and development, but also enable you to fulfill your civic and social responsibilities in the future. These skills and values include: problem solving, interpersonal skills, organization, responsibility, service orientation, and participating attitudes.
- The education and personal development you acquire through organizational experiences while at ISU can be important to your career. Alumni surveys have shown that the skills students learned through their involvement are extremely helpful in getting their first job, and in their moving up the career ladders. Iowa State as an institution supports and encourages participation in extracurricular activities, considering them an important part of the student's education and training. The University provides the best setting for people to explore their potentials, to take risks, and to try out new things and ideas. Don't leave this treasure island empty-handed!

How to Get Involved

- Go to the Student Organization Web page.
- You may search for an organization you are interested in through the organization web page search engine.
- Contact information will be brought up during your search. You may email or call the President or Adviser to see if they have a process for you to join the organization.
- If you are unable to meet up the organization during the summer - stop by [ClubFest](#).
- Once you meet the members of the organization find out how much time it will take in order to be a member. You should also discuss with them any membership fees.
- Make sure you keep track of your academics while you are involved. Your academics need to come first while you are a student at Iowa State University. If your grades start to slip take a step back and see what your priorities are. Discuss this with someone in the [Student Activities Center](#) or the [Academic Success Center](#). Your grades are important to us. It is cool to have good grades!
- Keep track of your leadership progress with our [Leadership Portfolio](#).
- Graduate with a successful academic record and leadership involvement.

Questions to Ask

- What have I been involved with previously? (Think about the projects and organizations with which you have been involved).
- What did I gain from those activities? (Make a list of the skills, knowledge personal contacts etc. that you gained from those prior experiences).
- What new skills and abilities would I like to gain? (What new skills would you like to develop through your new involvement's?)
- What am I interested in getting involved in? (Based on the skills you would like to acquire or develop, decide what activities will afford you the opportunity to develop those skills.)

Your Grades

- Before you get involved at Iowa State ask yourself how you will be able to maintain your academic standards. **Your grades are important to us.** Research has shown that a student's involvement can assist in

where to get involved?

- [Clubs & Organizations](#)
- [Leadership](#)
- [Volunteering](#)
- [Arts & Performing](#)
- [Cheerleading](#)
- [Events/Activities](#)

got a question?

Contact us at (515)294-8081
 Contact [webmaster](#).

one's connection to campus and in one's success in the classroom. The struggle for some students is balancing their campus involvement with their [academic pursuits](#).

- The Students Activities Center is committed to helping students achieve this balance. Find out how you can maintain your grades while actively participating in a club, organization, intramurals or another campus activity.

We Can Help

Deciding what group to join can be a difficult process. If you make informed choices, you can select an organization that will best fit your needs. Involvement planning entails reviewing what you have gained from your previous activities and deciding what new skills or abilities you would like to develop. We can assist you in this process. Stop by the [Student Activities Center](#).

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