Service Learning Leadership Badge

This badge recognizes students who demonstrate leadership through applied service-learning experiences. Badge earners investigate a social issue, connect local needs to broader civic or global contexts, and design and implement a service-based action project that creates meaningful impact. Through sustained collaboration, reflection, and action, students demonstrate leadership, critical thinking, teamwork, inclusive practices, professionalism, communication, and service aligned with the service-learning model while engaging others in positive change.

To earn this badge, students must receive 21 points or more overall, with all competencies rated at the Competent level or higher. The badge is awarded based on demonstrated evidence of learning, leadership, and impact as evaluated using the rubric below.

Rubric

Competency	Example Evidence	Accomplished (5)	Competent (3)	Developing (1)
Leadership *Recognize and capitalize on personal and team strengths to achieve organizational goals through planning, initiative, and influence.*	Leading project components, facilitating group work, guiding implementation, final presentation	Proactively leads project work, motivates peers, adapts based on feedback, and reflects on leadership growth	Demonstrates responsibility, initiative, and shared leadership	Limited initiative or unclear leadership role
Critical Thinking *Identify and respond to needs based on situational context and logical analysis of information.*	Issue investigation, SDG connection, project rationale	Analyzes a social issue using multiple perspectives and clearly justifies project decisions	Identifies an issue and explains reasoning behind project choices	Limited analysis or unclear reasoning
Teamwork *Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively toward common goals.*	Group planning, peer collaboration, shared deliverables	Actively supports team success, manages conflict, and reflects on group dynamics	Collaborates reliably and fulfills team responsibilities	Uneven participation or limited collaboration
Equity & Inclusion *Demonstrate awareness and skills to equitably engage diverse communities and challenge inequity.*	Project design, community context reflection, inclusive decision-making	Integrates equity awareness into project design and reflects on systemic issues	Demonstrates awareness of diverse perspectives and respectful engagement	Mentions equity without meaningful application

Service Learning & Action *Apply knowledge through meaningful service that addresses real needs and reflects reciprocal community impact.*	Design and implementation of service, advocacy, or awareness action	Designs and implements a thoughtful service action that clearly addresses a community need and reflects on impact	Completes a service action aligned with project goals and reflects on outcomes	Service action is limited, unclear, or weakly connected to goals
Professionalism *Demonstrate effective work habits, accountability, and ethical behavior.*	Attendance, partner communication, deadlines, preparation	Consistently reliable, prepared, and ethical; exceeds expectations	Meets expectations for accountability and conduct	Inconsistent follow-through
Communication *Clearly and effectively exchange information with diverse audiences.*	Project proposals, marketing materials, partner outreach, public presentation	Communicates persuasively and clearly across audiences and formats	Communicates ideas clearly and appropriately	Communication lacks clarity or audience awareness

All competencies assessed in this badge are aligned with the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Readiness Competencies, ensuring that the skills demonstrated are transferable and valued across academic, civic, and professional settings.