



## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES SURVEY ON SERVICE LEARNING IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES 2003 Edition

**Survey submission deadline: Friday, June 6, 2003**

The American Association of Community Colleges is collecting current information on community college programs and resources for service learning. *Service learning combines community service with academic instruction, focusing on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility.* AACC's goal is to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the role that service learning plays in community college classrooms and communities. Results will be published on AACC's Web site and in print by fall 2003. Data will be compiled and housed at the AACC Service Learning Clearinghouse, which serves as a national resource for faculty, administrators, staff, students, community partners, and researchers.

*Who should answer this survey?* If your college has a service learning coordinator or director, he or she is the best person to complete the survey. Otherwise a faculty member or administrator who oversees, coordinates, or organizes service learning should complete it. If your college has multiple campuses, please complete one survey that includes aggregate responses for all campuses.

The survey includes questions on service learning students, faculty, community partners, and program administration. You may need to consult with others at your college before submitting your survey responses. Estimate numbers if necessary; please use data from the most recent, complete academic year available. If you have questions about the survey content or results, please contact Gail Robinson at AACC, 202/728-0200 ext. 254 or [grobinson@aacc.nche.edu](mailto:grobinson@aacc.nche.edu).

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*Service learning combines community service with academic instruction, focusing on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility. Service learning programs involve students in organized activities that address local needs while developing their academic skills and commitment to their community. Service learning is related to but does not include volunteerism, cooperative education, practicums, or internships.*

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institution Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

1. Does your college offer service learning as part of any course work?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  
2. If not, does anyone at your college have an interest in service learning?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

If your college does offer service learning currently, please complete the remainder of this survey. Estimate numbers if necessary; use data from the most recent, complete academic year available.

If your college does not currently offer service learning and is interested in doing so, please forward contact information for interested faculty or staff to Gail Robinson, AACC coordinator of service learning, at [grobinson@aacc.nche.edu](mailto:grobinson@aacc.nche.edu).

## PART I. STUDENT PARTICIPATION

3. Indicate the curricular areas in which students participate in service learning. (Check all that apply.)
  - a. Science
  - b. Math
  - c. Technical/vocational
  - d. Social sciences
  - e. Humanities
  - f. English
  - g. Education
  - h. Business
  - i. Languages/ESL/ESOL
  - j. Health
  - k. Information technology
  - l. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Does your college offer a specific, stand-alone course on service learning and community service?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
5. Approximately how many different courses include a service learning component for students? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Of the courses in question 5, approximately how many different sections include a service learning component for students? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In total, how many students perform service learning during the academic year as part of the courses in question 5? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Is the service learning component required for students in any of the courses in question 5?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
9. If yes, in how many courses is service learning required?
  - a. All courses
  - b. Most courses
  - c. A small number of courses
10. To what extent are students involved in planning their service learning projects or activities (e.g., identifying community needs, selecting service sites, and/or designing service activities)?
  - a. To a great extent
  - b. To a moderate extent
  - c. To a minimal extent
  - d. Not at all
11. On average, how many hours of service does a typical service learning student provide as part of a course (per quarter or semester)?
  - a. 1 – 5
  - b. 6 – 10
  - c. 11 – 15
  - d. 16 – 20
  - e. 21 – 30
  - f. 31 +

12. In what kinds of service learning activities do students participate? (Check all that apply.)
- a. Tutoring
  - b. Mentoring
  - c. Child care
  - d. Health care/services
  - e. Senior citizen companionship/care
  - f. Homeless services
  - g. Community policing
  - h. Violence prevention
  - i. Neighborhood revitalization
  - j. Environmental conservation
  - k. Animal care
  - l. Adult education/literacy
  - m. Cultural/arts activities
  - n. Computer/technology activities
  - o. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
13. How do students learn about courses that include service learning components? (Check all that apply.)
- a. Faculty
  - b. Other students
  - c. Counselors/advisors
  - d. Student services staff
  - e. Community partners
  - f. Course catalog
  - g. Class schedule
  - h. College Web site
  - i. College newspaper/newsletter
  - j. Bulletin boards/displays
  - k. Brochures/flyers
  - l. Service fairs
  - m. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## **PART II. FACULTY PARTICIPATION**

14. Approximately how many full-time faculty teach courses with service learning components during the academic year? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Approximately how many part-time/adjunct faculty teach courses with service learning components during the academic year? \_\_\_\_\_
16. How are faculty encouraged or recruited to become involved in service learning? (Check all that apply.)
- a. Mini-grants
  - b. Stipends
  - c. Release time
  - d. Peer influence or mentoring
  - e. Student requests
  - f. Praise/recognition from administration
  - g. Interviews or hiring procedures
  - h. Personal commitment/renewal
  - i. Review/tenure process
  - j. Travel/professional development funds
  - k. On-campus training/workshops
  - l. Center for teaching and learning
  - m. CEUs/professional development credits
  - n. College publicity
  - o. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

17. Is faculty participation in community service (within or outside the institution) a factor in faculty promotion or tenure?
  - a. Yes, a major factor
  - b. Yes, a minor factor
  - c. No, not a factor
  
18. If yes, does teaching a course with service learning fulfill a faculty member's service responsibility?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
  
19. What types of reflection components (i.e., critical thinking about the service performed) are used in courses that provide service learning? (Check all that apply.)
  - a. Class discussion
  - b. Student-written journals
  - c. Group projects
  - d. Research papers
  - e. Oral presentations
  - f. Reflection papers
  - g. Student-led activities
  - h. Creative writing
  - i. Special assignments
  - j. Creative projects (e.g., art, music, video)
  - k. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  
20. Are civic responsibility components integrated into curricula that use service learning? (Civic responsibility means active participation in the public life of a community in an informed, committed, and constructive manner, with a focus on the common good.)
  - a. To a great extent
  - b. To a moderate extent
  - c. To a minimal extent
  - d. Not at all

### **PART III. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

21. With what types of community agencies or organizations does your college partner? (Check all that apply.)
  - a. K-12 schools
  - b. Social service agencies/organizations
  - c. Environmental agencies/organizations
  - d. Health agencies/organizations
  - e. Local government
  - f. Pre-K/Head Start programs
  - g. Animal care facilities
  - h. Cultural/arts organizations
  - i. Faith-based organizations
  - j. Senior citizen centers/elder care
  - k. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
  
22. At approximately how many different sites are your college's service learning students placed? \_\_\_\_\_
  
23. How does your college obtain community input for its service learning initiatives? (Check all that apply.)
  - a. Advisory board or committee
  - b. Collaborative partnerships
  - c. Environmental scanning processes
  - d. Personal contact with community members
  - e. Community assets/needs assessment or survey
  - f. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## PART IV. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

24. Indicate the primary person or office responsible for organizing or coordinating service learning at your college.
- a. Service learning director or coordinator
  - b. One faculty member for all disciplines
  - c. Different faculty members in different disciplines
  - d. Student services/student activities/student life administrator
  - e. Volunteer coordinator
  - f. Student coordinator or student organization
  - g. Financial aid office
  - h. Career or counseling office
  - i. Service learning team (collaborative approach)
  - j. AmeriCorps or Senior Corps member(s)
  - k. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
25. Does your college have a separate service learning center or office?
- a. Yes (name of administrative office to which it reports) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. No
26. Identify funding sources that have contributed at any time to your college's service learning initiatives. (Check all that apply.)
- a. Corporation for National and Community Service (Learn and Serve America, Senior Corps, AmeriCorps)
  - b. Federal work-study funds
  - c. Other federal government
  - d. State or local government
  - e. Community organizations
  - f. Local business/industry
  - g. Foundations
  - h. American Association of Community Colleges
  - i. Campus Compact
  - j. Your institution
  - k. Tuition/student fees
  - l. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
27. Is service learning a degree or certificate requirement?
- a. Yes, for all programs
  - b. Yes, for some programs
  - c. No, not for any program
28. Is participation in service learning notated on student transcripts?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
29. Does your college's strategic plan include service learning?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
30. Does your college's regional accreditation report include service learning?
- a. Yes
  - b. No

31. Indicate which of the following are evaluated as part of your college's service learning initiatives. (Check all that apply.)
- a. Student outcomes
  - b. Faculty outcomes
  - c. Other institutional outcomes
  - d. Community agency/organization outcomes
  - e. Community member/resident outcomes
  - f. No evaluation process underway
  - g. Other \_\_\_\_\_
32. Does your college track student participation in service learning?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
33. Does your college track student retention rates (e.g., students remain at or return to the college from quarter to quarter, or semester to semester)?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
34. If yes, do the student retention data suggest that service learning increases student retention rates?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Unknown
35. Other comments:

***This survey is also available online at [www.aacc.nche.edu/slsurvey](http://www.aacc.nche.edu/slsurvey)***

***Thank you! Please submit your completed survey to:***

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