

Chapter 9: Volunteer Opportunities

A number of SDSU organizations offer opportunities for members to participate in community service and volunteer projects.

We encourage student groups to develop ongoing service relationships that facilitate quality service partnerships between students and community organizations.

The **SDSU Children's Center** provides quality childcare for SDSU students, faculty and staff with children between 12 months and 6 years of age. The Center is always willing to work with student organizations and groups to create public service opportunities. Collaborative projects in the past have included in classroom, hands-on activities, computer support, large group activities and more.

The **Cross-Cultural Center (CCC) Volunteer Program** provides participants with the opportunity to help the CCC further its mission statement, participate in cross-cultural programs and trainings, develop networking, programming, and administrative skills, and learn about how to get involved on campus.

Associated Students

The daily operations of AS are guided by student-directed run boards and committees. These legislative bodies determine the content and direction of AS programs and services that are provided for the students and staff at SDSU. The responsibilities of the board and committee members include but are not limited to: establishing budgets, improving diversity, planning fun events, recognizing faculty, students and staff for their achievements, and developing plans for the future of AS programs and services. Joining a board or committee is a great way to get started in AS student government. For a complete list,

please contact AS.

Campus-Wide Events and Programs

A variety of campus-wide events are open to recognized student organizations. During the first week of fall, you can showcase your organization during the student organization fair of Welcome Week. Organizations applying or renewing campus recognition early are also eligible to participate in the week of events celebrating Homecoming in mid-fall, including the selection of organizational nominees for Homecoming King and Queen and Cultural Arts & Special Events (CASE) activities. In early spring, organizations have the opportunity to be highlighted in the student organization fair of Explore SDSU, an open house for prospective students and their families. In late spring, AS hosts GreenFest with live entertainment, food fair and competitions.

Student Awards and Recognition

Student organizations and their leaders are eligible for university recognition programs. Included in these are the "Quest for the Best" Vice Presidential Student Service Awards, which recognize individual excellence in academics, campus involvement, and community service.

Quest for the Best

The "Quest for the Best" awards seek to recognize outstanding student leaders who have typified and promoted the mission of the university. This Vice Presidential Student Service award is given each April to the "best of the best" at SDSU – those students who excel academically and through community and campus involvement.

Applicants are evaluated in four areas:

1. **Academic excellence**, including grade point average (a minimum overall G.P.A.

- of 3.0 is required), individual research, participation in professional and academic societies, involvement in departmental activities, etc.;
2. **Student involvement and commitment**, including student organizations, student government and college councils, The Daily Aztec, housing, fraternity/sorority life, athletics, honor societies, etc.;
 3. **Community service outside the SDSU campus**, including volunteer work with medical, social service, theatrical, artistic, cultural, political entities, etc.;
 4. **Leadership qualities and development**, including the degree of involvement and initiative within activities, the furtherance of intercultural understanding, and evidence of the development of positive, ethical decision-making.

Nominations are open to regularly enrolled SDSU students who have completed at least one year at SDSU and at least 75 units of college work.

In addition, there's the annual AS Aztec Achievement Awards which recognize excellence in student leadership and involvement, as well as outstanding student organizations, programs and advisors. Further details are available in Student Life & Leadership and the AS Government Affairs Office.

There are a number of existing opportunities campus-wide for SDSU students to learn, practice, and develop leadership skills. Check with Student Life & Leadership about how to get more involved.