

UNLV | OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

UNLV subscribes to the definition of community engagement provided by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching:

Community engagement describes the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.

The purpose of community engagement is the partnership of college and university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching and learning; prepare educated, engaged citizens; strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; address critical societal issues; and contribute to the public good.

To put it another way, UNLV's streamlined definition of community engagement is, **"anything we do that connects our on- and off-campus communities."** Below are some of the primary areas in which community engagement may relate to the work you do. The lists are provided for the purpose of prompting complete responses and are not meant to be exhaustive. If you have questions about the process, please contact us at (702) 895-2712.

Partnerships – Collaborations between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial creation and exchange of knowledge and resources. Partnership qualities may include:

- Co-creation of goals and outcomes
- Mutual respect
- Reciprocity
- Shared authority

Outreach – Programs developed for and institutional resources provided to the community. Examples may include:

- Athletic offerings
- Cultural offerings
- Evaluation support
- Extension programs
- Faculty/staff consultation, board service, organizational leadership, and/or any activity customarily included on a CV/resume
- Learning centers
- Library services
- Non-credit courses
- Professional development centers
- Training programs
- Tutoring programs

Curricular – Teaching, learning, and scholarship that engages faculty, staff, students, and community entities in mutually beneficial and respectful collaborations. Examples may include:

- Clinical work (for credit)
- Community-based learning/research
- Community-engaged courses
- Internships (for placement purposes)
- Practicums
- Public service courses
- Service-learning courses

Co-Curricular – Structured learning that happens outside the formal academic curriculum through trainings, workshops, and experiential learning opportunities. Examples may include:

- Alternative break – domestic/international
- Clinical work (not for credit)
- Community service projects (outside or within the campus)
- Greek life
- Internships (to meet a community need)
- Living-learning communities/residence hall/floor
- Registered student organizations
- Social innovation/entrepreneurship
- Student leadership
- Work-study placements

Professional Activity and Scholarship – Professional activity associated with co-curricular engagement achievements. Examples may include:

- Awards
- Conference presentations
- Leadership programming
- Other scholarly artifacts
- Pedagogy workshops
- Policy reports
- Publications
- Research reports
- Research studies
- Student program development
- Technical reports