

## Benefits of Student Organization Involvement

### 1. You'll learn more about yourself.

Joining a student organization presents many opportunities to learn more about yourself, your goals, and your strengths. You can learn from how other students handle certain situations and test your current knowledge. You can also find out what you're good at, whether that's multitasking, staying organized, generating ideas, or serving others. This self-awareness will be beneficial to all professionals.

### 2. You'll develop soft skills.

Soft Skills are essentially "people skills" — they're the skills that allow us to effectively interact with others, like communication, attitude, and work ethic. Participating in a student organization not only teaches you these skills, but also helps you broaden and improve those you already have. You'll learn the best way to communicate with both individuals and large groups, and you'll gain emotional intelligence as you develop new relationships.

### 3. You'll learn how to work with a team.

Knowing how to work well with a team is an essential skill for any career. Being in a student organization teaches you how to do this by putting you in situations where you are required to take advice from others, as well as give your own.

### 4. You'll get networking opportunities.

Another great benefit of student organizations is that you get the opportunity to network. Meeting new students, making connections, and building relationships will all help down the line when you're looking for a job. Because you're all part of the same organization, you know the people you're meeting have at least a few of the same interests as you, so their connections will be valuable.

### 5. You'll gain practical experience in a safe environment.

Participating in a club or an organization based around your particular area of study will give you practical experience within that field. And what's great about student clubs is that while you learn to use skills like project management, event planning, and fundraising, you get to test them out in a safe environment where making mistakes is acceptable. Everyone is there to support you, so there's no fear in messing up or being wrong.

### 6. You'll be able to use the skills you've learned in class.

Having an environment to apply classroom experience happens in student organizations. Being part of an organization allows you to put what you're learning in class to the test in real-world situations. You'll get to learn what works and what doesn't, and you'll be able to take that knowledge back to the classroom, and then, of course, along with you into your next job.

### 7. You'll learn how to engage with diverse groups of people.

A real strength of Mayville State, and of most of our student organizations, is that when you choose to participate, the group will include diverse students — you'll be faced with the same situation in the working world! Learning how different people respond and react to certain situations will help you develop your skills in presenting and implementing ideas.

### 8. You'll gain leadership skills.

Becoming a leader or an officer in an organization will help you develop leadership skills that will be invaluable in all areas of life. You'll be presented with opportunities to improve in public speaking, and gain confidence in yourself as an individual.

### 9. You'll get a break from your studies.

Concentrating on schoolwork is obviously important, but giving your mind a break is necessary (and beneficial). While taking part in club activities, you'll be able to socialize with like-minded individuals and actually learn as much from them as you would your schoolwork.

### 10. You'll expand your resume.

There's no arguing that organizations and activities look good on a résumé. Showing employers that you participated in, or (better yet) lead, a student organization, they'll know that you're hard working and can handle multiple responsibilities.

### 11. You'll be able to give back to the community.

Many student organizations provide opportunities to give back to the community, whether through acts of service, sponsoring events, or hosting charity events. We'll ask for your help around homecoming, Halloween, and certain spring events.

### 12. You'll have fun!

Another simple reason to join a student organization is to have fun. Meeting new people, making new friends, and participating in activities will help you make the most of your MSU experience.

## Join a Student Organization

Being an involved student can be a sacrifice, but being involved on campus is worth it. The sacrifice of time brings benefits — friendships, the level of involvement across campus, the expansion of a professional network, and fun. Student organizations have a lot to offer. Whether you join as a member or choose to lead one, simply taking part in an extracurricular group will enhance your school experience. Gaining skills, making connections, and broadening your knowledge through a student organization will help you become a more well-rounded individual — one that's ready to take on your future career!