



Youth Leadership Roles

Giving youths leadership opportunities can increase their feelings of agency, self-efficacy and ownership. These feelings lead to a sense of belonging, which in turn leads to retention. As students remain with the program, they develop new skills, bolster self-esteem and improve their ability to problem solve, which helps to recruit other students. Use these leadership roles and descriptions to foster youth leadership opportunities in your program.

Ideas for Leadership Roles

<i>Leadership Roles</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Core Skills Required or To Be Taught</i>
Youth Ambassadors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Act as recruitment leads for the program, spreading the word in formal and informal ways. ● Man the table at outreach and recruitment events. ● Present on the program at meetings, assemblies, events. ● Act as welcoming liaison for new or potential program participants. ● Give feedback and help develop outreach materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effective communication ● Listening ● Organizational and interpersonal skills ● Dependability ● Teamwork ● Public speaking
Peer-to-Peer Mentors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Older/veteran participants pair with younger/newer participants. ● Help give advice, tutoring and pathways for navigating high school. ● Engage in formal and informal enrichment and social-emotional activities. ● Increase connections and community within the program and within the school day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Positive attitude ● Self-motivation ● Interpersonal and communication skills ● Trustworthiness ● Responsibility
Service Learning Project Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Help to lead and design. ● Specify roles for all team members (e.g., project manager, researcher, administrative assistant, writer, graphic designer, social marketer, community outreach coordinator, marketing coordinator). ● Develop connections in the community. ● Earn service hours needed to graduate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creativity ● Teamwork ● Problem solving ● Planning and organizing ● Time management
Internship Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participate in job readiness training and learn job skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Time management ● Productivity



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gain real-world experience. ● Take a 4- to 8-week placement with program partners. ● Benefit from stipend options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organizational skills ● Critical thinking ● Interpersonal skills ● Responsibility ● Problem solving
Youth Steering Committee or Advisory Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advise and provide feedback on programming. ● Collaborate with program decision making. ● Undertake structured roles and positions such as program officers, note takers, communication officer, historian or others. ● Generate solutions to identified problems or needs. ● Plan and implement program activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leadership ● Critical thinking ● Commitment ● Decision- making ● Planning
Other		



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