

How to Stay Involved!

Take an ACEL (advanced community engaged learning) course. TCNJ offers upper-level courses that connect course content to service experience. Courses, tagged “ACEL” in the course catalog, are offered every semester.

Develop a community-based research project. Connect academic research in a class project or an independent study research project to a community partner as an upperclassman.

Participate in governance on campus. Do you want to influence policy decisions on campus? Is there an executive board of a campus organization that you can join as a student representative? Do you want to join student government?

Get an internship. You could explore the college’s wide array of internships with community partners, including the CCE Center’s *Summer Community Leaders* program. If there is an organization that you want to work with on your own to offer and develop your skills, connect with a faculty member to craft an internship for credit.

Register to vote. Register to vote either in your hometown or at TCNJ! If you are registered in your hometown, make sure to get an absentee ballot in advance.

Be an informed voter. Don’t just vote! Make sure you do your research beforehand to choose the candidate that best represents your values.

Join the *TCNJ Votes!* initiative. You could be an advocate for voting on campus and encourage other students to be registered, informed voters.

Volunteer with the *Bonner Scholars Program*. The *Bonner Scholars Program* is a 4-year program where scholars do 300 hours of community service each year. About 80-100 students serve at 20-25 organizations across the community. They also accept student volunteers who are not Bonner scholars to attend service at their sites.

Develop a service opportunity for your organization. Are you part of an organization on campus that could offer a service to the community? Why not create a service day or fundraising event for your team or organization? For example, the tennis team on campus could collaborate with the NJ Tennis League of Trenton to plan a day of programming or a fundraising event for the community. Or your organization could visit an after-school program each week to facilitate a workshop on art or teach a sport.

Volunteer on our own. Find time in your schedule to serve at an organization on your own. Want help brainstorming? Reach out to the CCE to see if there are volunteer needs that are not yet filled by other programs that fit your interests. You could volunteer back home over breaks in your local community.

Donate. Non-profit organizations rely on donations to be able to do their work. Offer what you can to an organization for a cause that you care about.

Spread awareness. Is there an issue that you are passionate about? Host a forum on campus. Create an educational flyer. Join a club to help educate the campus community. Find out if there is a campus department or organization already dedicated to an issue that matters to you, and see how you might be able to work together.

Be a student advocate. Is there specific change that you wish to see on campus? Can you start a campus-wide petition or movement?

Create an inclusive community. Use the knowledge and skills that you learned in your CEL experience or other classes to help combat bias, prejudice, and stereotypes on campus. Check out Teaching Tolerance’s “Speak Up at School” [guide](#) on how to interrupt.

Declare a major/minor. Increase your knowledge and build your skills in an academic area that can contribute to making a change in your community. TCNJ has an Urban Education major, a Social Justice minor, an Environmental Sustainability minor, and more!

Explore global options. Connect with the Center for Global Engagement to hear about what options there are to explore our global community. Already going abroad? See if there is a way to get involved in a service experience while you’re away!

...and more!