

Skills for Success

Leadership Skills

Employers are looking for candidates who possess skills that prepare them to make immediate contributions. In addition to a solid academic background, employers want you, as a university graduate, to have demonstrated ability in the following skill areas: Communication, Leadership, Teamwork, Technical and Interpersonal. These skills and traits are not exclusive to those who study a particular major, but can be developed by individuals in any major. So start now! Incorporate skill development into your academic experience. Take steps to make your career dreams become career realities.

You can build leadership skills in classes and experiences that involve developing and exercising leadership. Here is a short list of the possibilities:

Classes

Look for classes that emphasize learning teamwork, strong communication, developing leadership skills, leadership theory, group dynamics, and project management, etc.

Examples of course rubrics; this is not an inclusive list.

- Agricultural Education (AGED)
- AHS 365 (Civic Engagement in Wellness)
- Communication (CMN)
- FAA 291 (Civic Engagement Seminar)
- Military Sciences (MILS)
- Psychology (PSYC)
- Recreating Sport and Tourism (RST)

Possible Minors and Certificates:

- Business Minor
- Communication Minor
- Leadership Certificate
- Leadership Studies minor
- Public Relations Certificate

Experiences

- Earn an Illinois Leadership Certificate through the Leadership Center
- Run a campaign for Student Government
- Be elected to a student government office
- Become a Resident Advisor
- Become an officer in a campus organization
- Initiate a new program, service, resource, or business
- Serve on your college student council
- Be an officer or committee chair in your fraternity or sorority
- Join ROTC
- Become a paraprofessional
- Facilitate group discussions
- Serve as an Illini Guide
- Lead a campus support group
- Participate in campus and community leadership training programs, conferences, and events
- Organize and manage an intramural sports team
- Lead children's programs, tutor, or coach children's sports teams
- Coordinate workshops for a student cultural center
- Be involved in campus, local or state politics
- Participate in living/learning community
- Participate in Illinois Leadership Programs
- Become a Learning Community Leader