

Why SERVE?

“Why did I choose to spend my freshman year (and subsequently all four years of college) surrounded by people who commit themselves to service? I serve to work toward a more just world where we all see one another as equals.”

-Liz, class of 2015

“In SERVE, I’ve had the opportunity to learn about critical issues that affect our society and learned how I can act upon the ones I’m passionate about.”

-Cameron, class of 2019

“Through analyzing service principles, participating in volunteer experiences with my SERVE peers, and reflecting on these opportunities, I’ve been able to learn more about myself and my passions.”

-Sarah, class of 2019

Join us

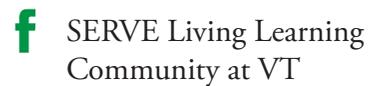
Have questions? Want to learn more?

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Follow our work

engage.vt.edu/serve



a Living Learning Community
for students passionate about
service & community engagement

Living

Who we are

The SERVE Living Learning Community is a signature program of VT Engage, a service learning and civic engagement center in Virginia Tech's Division of Student Affairs.

Launched in 2009, SERVE's mission is to create a nurturing residential community that fosters personal growth and civic responsibility. We embrace VT's motto '*Ut Prosim*' (That I May Serve) through community engagement.

Our community

All students new to SERVE live together in Pritchard Hall, creating a tight-knit community within VT's largest residence hall. Living with service-oriented peers, mentors, and designated Resident Advisors allows our students to build relationships with one another outside class.

Through service, working with community partners, studying, and socializing, we help our students make the most of their time in Blacksburg and the New River Valley.



Learning

In the classroom

Our students major in a range of disciplines, and come from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. This diversity enriches our interactive, discussion-based classes. In groups and individually, students learn to critically reflect on and explore leadership, service, and social change.

The servant leadership and facilitation skills students develop in class make them more effective at working with their communities to help create positive, impactful change.

Award-winning programming

In 2012, we received two prestigious national awards for our work:

- The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators' Bronze Certificate for program excellence in achieving a positive influence on student education.
- The Dalton Institute's Best Practices Award recognizing us for developing student values, integrity-based learning, and civic education.

Serving

Putting ideas into action

Whether serving on their own or in groups, within the U.S. and abroad, SERVE students have ample opportunities to explore the social issues they care about.

These student-led, hands-on trips delve into issues ranging from environmental sustainability to homelessness to food insecurity. While exploring the impact these issues have on society, our students connect with the communities in which they serve.

Through guided reflection by trip leaders and VT Engage staff, our students are challenged to examine their preconceived ideas about the issues they encounter, motivations for service, and privilege.

Becoming active citizens

Our hope is that our students will use lessons from SERVE to be inspired and empowered to become change-making citizens in college and in their communities after graduation.

