

Resources for Affiliate Leaders: How to Build a Connection with Student Clubs and Faculty Leaders

Outreach

Not yet working with a nearby university student club?

Reach out to local colleges/universities or local faculty members

- Suggest they start a club! Student organizations and student involvement are invaluable to any AEYC associate organization

Don't know who to contact?

Try contacting the following offices (E-Mail addresses can typically be found on a college/university website):

- Dean of Social Sciences/Arts and Sciences
- Education Department/School of Education
- Student Government (generally run by college students)
- Student Activities (generally run by university full-time staff)
- NAEYC's Associate Degree Accreditation program's [website](#) allows you to search for faculty members associated with NAEYC. It's a great place to begin your search!
- Ideally, the best way to ensure strong leadership and a successful club would be to ask the above offices to put you in touch with an interested faculty member who is interested. Working together, the framework for the club can be built and he/she can recommend a qualified, dedicated student who could serve well in founding the student club.

The Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children has a whole page on their [website](#) dedicated to the great work their student clubs are doing on their campuses, in the community, and within the Maryland AEYC.

Student Involvement

Now that you're connected...

Check out the [Student Involvement Framework](#) in the Student Resource Center

Ideas for Supporting Student Clubs:

- Provide workshop leaders and speakers
- Assist students with program planning/implementation of club events
- Host professional development opportunities for junior and senior level students (networking workshop, resume assistance, etc.)
- Offer mentorship opportunities for emerging early childhood education professionals
 - The New York AEYC's [website](#) explores ways to match emerging professionals with experienced, wise veterans who will help orient, initiate, and advise them as they enter the workforce
- Involve students in larger advocacy efforts in the community

Week of the Young Child is a perfect opportunity for this! Check out NAEYC's event planning [handbook](#) for Week of the Young Child.

- Ask students to volunteer at local conferences and events in exchange for admission, or offer the opportunity to present at conferences themselves
- Provide materials to recruit other students, including event posters and member leaflets
- Offer to send Affiliate representatives to meetings of student groups
- Advise students on lesson plans and career paths — mentorship
- Offer office resources for mailing, website outreach, newsletter articles, etc.
- Provide opportunities for emerging leaders to work with existing leaders in the field
- Cultivate new student groups by participating in local school events

Invite students to apply to represent nearby colleges/student interests on your board of trustees

INSIDER TIP: It would be incredibly beneficial for any Affiliate leader working with student clubs to understand how they operate! Check out our other documents to get a sense of how college students run their organizations.

Internships

Never recruited a college student to intern before? Check out this [online resource](#) on how to recruit interns.

Students can work within any area of your organization that needs assistance — marketing, communications, IT, web design, development, membership coordination, human resources, finance, outreach, public relations, managing student club communication, etc.

Smaller association? No formal office? No problem! You don't have to provide a structured, formal internship — recruit college volunteers to help you on an as-needed basis! This is perfect for colleges that have less accessibility to an Affiliate office.



