

University of Denver

AY 2025-2026 | CENG 3980-2: Changemakers Internship

Information for Partner Organizations & Site Supervisors

About the Changemakers Internship Program

DU's [Center for Community Engagement](#) (CCESL) runs the Changemaker Internship Program. Undergraduate students who participate are looking to make a meaningful impact while gaining hands-on experience. The internship is intended to be collaborative and mutually beneficial and to provide an opportunity for students to develop community engagement skills and public good identities.

Through their placement with your organization, interns can provide support for your organization as you identify or define it. They should have an opportunity to tackle real-world challenges and to work with you to identify a special project they can carry out. These projects can vary widely depending on the needs of the organization and the interests of the student. Students will enroll in academic credits that provide a set of guided assignments to help them through their project, reflect on their work, and connect it to their academic learning and post-graduate plans.

Undergraduate students from all majors are eligible for the internship program. Students enrolled in the new [Community Engagement for the Public Good Minor](#) or Certificate may count the internship credits for these programs of study (it is required for the minor). Additionally, students may be eligible for compensation through CCESL.

What Student Commitment Can You Expect?

CCESL will be recruiting students in Summer and early Fall 2025 with the goal that students will serve as interns for the full 2025-2026 academic year. This will include 3 university quarters, each 10 weeks long (finals occur in Week 11). The dates for each quarter are as follows:

- **Fall 2025:** September 8, 2025 – November 15, 2025 (while the quarter starts on September 8th, we anticipate recruiting and enrolling students during the first two weeks of the quarter. Therefore, it may be more likely for students to start the week of September 22nd).
 - The university is on winter break from November 22, 2025-January 4, 2026 – it may be possible for some students to continue their internship work during this time, but should not be expected unless an agreement is made between the student and organization
- **Winter 2026:** January 5, 2026 – March 16, 2026
- **Spring 2026:** March 30, 2026 – June 8, 2026

Students will enroll for 1-2 credits each quarter. Internship credit must entail between 3-7 hours per week of supervision, preparation, or work per credit hour. As such, the following outlines the number of hours Site Supervisors can expect depending on the credit hours the intern enrolls for:

- **1 credit:** minimum of **30 hours**, or approximately **3 hours/week** for each 10-week quarter (up to 70 hours or 7 hours/week)
- **2 credits:** minimum of **60 hours**, or approximately **6 hours/week** for each 10 week quarter (up to 120 hours or 12 hours/week)

Instructors

Staff from CCESL facilitate the internship program and are available to support Site Supervisors and Partner Organizations.

Cara DiEnno

Executive Director

Role: Internship Instructor

Support: Any questions about the internship program, the internship assignments, or students' work quality.

cara.dienno@du.edu

John Macikas

Associate Director

Role: Facilitator of all-CCESL student trainings, which interns also attend

Support: Student development and networking with peers

john.macikas@du.edu

Angelica Ortiz

Outreach & Communication Coor.

Role: Coordination of Scholar Shop

Support: Orgs interested in connecting with other DU faculty/students can discuss their interest/needs

angelica.ortiz@du.edu

Site Supervisor Responsibilities

Partner organizations should identify at least one person who will be the internship contact and serve as the Site Supervisor. This person will:

- Identify a special project that could be completed by undergraduate student(s) over the course of their internship. The internship instructor, Dr. Cara DiEnno, is available to meet with Site Supervisors and their interns to assist with identifying a project.
- Be available to support interns, including meeting regularly – the duration and frequency to be coordinated between you and your intern(s)
- Attend (or send another organization representative) the following meetings:
 - **Internship Kick-Off Meeting**
 - Monday, September 22, 2025, 4-5 PM
 - if recruitment is still underway, this date may shift to the following week, Monday, September 29, 4-5 PM
 - University of Denver, Community Commons, 2055 E. Evans Ave. Denver, CO 80210
 - **Final presentations**
 - Monday, June 8, 2026, 4-5 PM University of Denver, Community Commons, 2055 E. Evans Ave. Denver, CO 80210
 - Additional optional events will be shared throughout the year, should you wish to connect with other DU faculty/students. This will include the university's Annual Public Good Celebration in May 2026.
- Provide updates to the instructor on student performance throughout the quarter (typically through a brief biweekly survey) and provide CCESL feedback on the internship program.
- Submit a brief written evaluation of students via email at the end of each quarter (as required by the DU Experiential Learning requirements) to be taken into consideration for the student's final grade.

Benefits

In addition to benefits of having an intern matched with your organization, you can expect the following:

- Networking with faculty, staff, and students at DU as well as other nonprofit organizations in the area.
- Completion of a special project identified by your organization in collaboration with your intern(s). Interns will also have access to up to \$500 to support materials/supplies needed to carry out their special projects.
- Compensation (up to \$1,000, pending continued participation and completion of required tasks/attendance at events – stipend will be split into two \$500 payments, one in December 2025 and one in May 2026). If your organization is accepted into the internship program, you will need to submit a [Vendor Registration](#) form with DU in order to receive your payment.
- Support from CCESL Staff

Questions?

Feel free to reach out to Cara DiEnno (cara.dienno@du.edu) with any questions.

Become an Internship Partner

To express your interest in becoming an organizational partner and placement site for intern(s) during the 2025-2026 academic year, please complete the interest form linked below. Please note that we will do our best to match your organization to the number of intern(s) you are seeking, but we unfortunately cannot guarantee a match.

INTERNSHIP PARTNER INTEREST FORM: <https://ccesl.info/2025InternshipInterestForm>