

Project Advance Austin

Community Partner Role Description:

As a host organization for a student team, Community Partners play a crucial role in the success of Project Advance Austin. Community Partners provide regular guidance on high-impact projects that are dedicated to uplifting the local community by providing essential resources through their organization. Community Partners also offer valuable feedback to student teams throughout the academic year, guiding the work of their student team and shaping the scope and final deliverables of their project's timeline.

Benefits:

- A project completed by a student team which addresses a high-impact community need within your organization.
- Free access to one of Texas LEAD's professional development workshops for your organization's staff.
- An expanded network within UT Austin's community.
- Invitation to end of year Final Showcase event, celebrating your organization and your student team's work.
- \$1,000 to support your student team's project offered through Texas LEAD.

Responsibilities:

- Provide a project that can be completed in 8-9 months by a team of student project managers.
- 30-60 minutes weekly, supporting your student team via virtual meetings, emails, and/or phone calls.
- Regularly communicate with Texas LEAD staff and Team Manager.
- Engage and collaborate with your student team to manage the success of your project.
- Provide effective feedback to Texas LEAD staff to support and guide your student team.

Required Qualifications:

- Ability to commit 30-60 minutes a week to supporting your project team.
- Ability to attend a 1-hour virtual Community Partner orientation prior to the start of the program.
- A desire to guide a student team of high impact volunteers.
- Ability to complete a short monthly feedback survey that Texas LEAD uses to guide your team's work.
- Availability to attend a Final Showcase event in late April.

Application Materials:

- The application requires the following information, submitted via our online survey:
 - A short description of the proposed project for your student team.
 - A short description of your organization and your mission.
 - The names and contact information for two contact people within your organization.
 - These will be the main points of contact for Texas LEAD and your student team.
 - A short description of your project goals and expectations.
 - An acknowledgement to provide 30-60 minutes of support to your team weekly.

What Makes a good project proposal for Project Advance Austin?

- An effective Community Partner will provide clear and consistent communication with both student teams and Texas LEAD staff to support their project's success.
 - An effective proposal will ensure the project scope is realistic and appropriate for a team of first-time project managers who are also maintaining a full-time student status.
 - An effective proposal will define the expected project scope, impact, and final deliverables to be completed by your student team.
 - An effective proposal will briefly outline why this project is important to your organization.
 - An effective proposal will also outline any expected barriers to success that may impede your student team so Texas LEAD staff can help create strategies to overcome them.
 - The most effective proposals offer specific details about the project. Students generally gravitate toward the proposals that offer in-depth information about what they are expected to complete.
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Please note, Texas LEAD selects Community Partners based on a strong belief in the power of collaboration and effective feedback. Community Partners can expect regular support and guidance from Texas LEAD staff and a deep commitment to the success of not only their project but also their organization as whole.

2025-2026 Applications will open in May 2025

If you have any questions, please contact Texas LEAD Assistant Director, Marc Pereira. He can be reached via any of the methods below:

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