

How to Build a DukeEngage Independent Project

SELECT YOUR PROJECT THEME AND LOCATION

Consider your interests, experiences, and skills to identify a service theme and location for your project (i.e.: public health, US Midwest; women's empowerment, Latin America). Check out Featured Projects completed by former participants on the DukeEngage website.

FIND YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

Search for non-profit organizations connected to your service theme and location. Learn about the organizations you might partner with: their mission, current projects, assets and needs, experience hosting volunteers or interns. Take advantage of Resources on the DukeEngage website.

MEET WITH YOUR DUKEENGAGE ADVISOR

Get feedback and guidance on your prospective project. All candidates must meet a DukeEngage advisor before submitting an application. Email dukeengage@duke.edu to schedule.

PLAN YOUR PROJECT

Collaborate with your identified community partner to design your project. Set specific goals and deliverables, and design a workflow. Be sure to consider resources available and your project timeline. Use the Toolkit on the DukeEngage website.

FIND YOUR DUKE MENTOR

Identify a Duke faculty or staff mentor by searching academic departments associated to your service theme and location. Discuss feasibility, resources, potential challenges, and cultural context. Find your mentor early and seek their feedback to build a strong project.

COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION

Complete the online application and ensure your mentor submits their Agreement Form. Obtain Verification Letter from your partner (using template from DukeEngage) before your interview.

Ask your DukeEngage advisor and faculty mentor for guidance in designing your project!