

Competency (6) Civic (Community) Engagement Assessment Results

The Office of Community Engagement at William & Mary is committed to supporting students' development as active and educated citizens and to promoting avenues for positive, community-driven social change.

Skills and attitudes developed in OCE programs:

1. Critical Thinking (ability to analyze and make decisions)
2. Communication (ability to share thoughts and ideas written or oral)
3. Teamwork (ability to build relationships and work across difference)
4. Leadership (ability to support others and leverage their strengths for a common goal)
5. Reflection (ability to intentionally examine experiences and evaluate personal growth)
6. Ability to contribute to positive social change
7. Commitment to active citizenship

Outcomes: 2019-2020

To determine skill and attitude development, OCE surveyed participants in five OCE programs: Aim 4, Griffin School Partnerships, Lafayette Kids, Branch Out alternative breaks, Williamsburg Engagement.

Participants were asked to identify which skills their community experiences helped them to develop and whether those experiences changed their perceived ability to contribute to positive social change and/or their commitment to active citizenship.

In spring 2020, 151 participants responded to our survey. In response to the question, "Which, if any, of these skills did you practice in OCE programs this year? (Select all that apply)," the following percentages of respondents selected the following skills:

Teamwork/Collaboration	92%
Reflecting on your own perspective, assumptions, and bias	81%
Critical Thinking/Problem Solving	70%
Oral/Written Communications	66%
Professionalism/Work Ethic	66%
Leadership	54%
Asking for input/feedback from community	34%
Global/Intercultural Fluency	20%
Digital Technology	15%
Career Management	7%

Additionally, 66% of respondents reported that they had grown as active citizens through OCE programs.

In September 2020, W&M began using GivePulse, an online platform for community engagement. We shared opportunities for engagement and service, and allowed users to record their impacts in hours and experience through the platform. Because this year was markedly different with pandemic restrictions and reduced community capacity for hosting students, student involvement in community engagement was much lower than usual. Still, during the 2020-2021 academic year, we recorded 2484 different involvements in volunteer and community engagement activities, and a total of 5540 hours spent in those activities.