

Seed Coalition

2023–24 Member Benefits

Solidarity with institutions across Minnesota and Iowa of all types and sizes with leadership committed to the public purposes of higher education:

- We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities—economically, socially, environmentally, educationally and politically.
- We empower our students, faculty, staff, and community partners to co-create mutually respectful partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities beyond the campus—nearby and around the world.
- We prepare our students for lives of engagement, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.
- We harness the capacity of our institutions—through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practices—to challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future.
- We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.

Connections across higher education sectors around a shared sense of higher education’s civic purpose in our communities and democracy. Member campuses build partnerships and educate students in ways that reflect their distinctive missions and contexts, yet through this coalition, presidents, faculty, staff, and student leaders learn from, collaborate with, inspire, and challenge each other.

Access to responsive, customized assistance for everyone from faculty and staff to students and partners. Through workshops, presentations, convenings, and consultations, we provide assistance on many forms of engagement (e.g., service-learning, community-based research, internships, dialogue, and institutional partnerships), as well as opportunities for networking and resource exchange.

Giving voice to the civic mission of higher education. As the value of higher education continues to be questioned and resources continue to be scarce, it is more critical than ever that we not only do our work but advocate for it with key audiences. We disseminate data and stories from our members through events, awards, our website, social media, and publications.

Engagement strategies that support the success of Iowa and Minnesota’s increasingly diverse students We know community engagement is a high-impact educational strategy for students from all backgrounds. Our programming intentionally supports engagement efforts that advance college access and success.

Access to external resources that build capacity at member institutions and their partners. Member campuses and their partners get additional people power by placing students and full-time service members on campuses and in the community through the Campus Compact VISTA Community Corps and the Civic Leaders AmeriCorps Program.



Select Opportunities for IAMNCC Members

Network Gatherings – We are at our best when we are convening people. We intend to bring the full network together four times this year:

- August – Cedar Rapids, IA
- October – Minnesota
- February – Virtual
- April – Minnesota (coinciding with the awards event)

Civic Action Academy – This unique professional development opportunity will bring students from Iowa and Minnesota together to learn new ways of making a difference and building skills through civic and community engagement. Students will also learn from and with their peers through this networking experience. *The Civic Action Academy will take place November 10-11 in Grinnell, IA*

Presidents' Leadership Retreat – We will offer member presidents a two-day gathering in June 2024.

Communities of Practice – At listening tour stops in Iowa and Minnesota, many campuses requested we bring back our local CoP's. which our network first started back in 2017. CoPs offer community engagement practitioners (both staff and faculty) a platform and space for shared learning and collegial support to advance their engagement practice in a manner characterized by equity and integrity. Each CoP focuses on a specific area of higher education community engagement practice. *Look for an invitation to participate this Fall.*

Expert Speaker Series – This year we are piloting an “Expert Speaker Series” as a means to highlight the phenomenal courses, projects, and programs in our network. Our goal with this series is to uplift network voices and increase collaboration among member campuses.

Engaged Faculty Institute – The EFI is a two-week, online, asynchronous learning experience covering the components and practices of quality and rigorous community engagement for those interested in teaching community-engaged courses. *The institute will take place between Fall and Spring semesters and in May 2024.*

Yes, You Can Run! – In its second year, Yes, You Can Run aims to support the next generation of public servants interested in running for office. This cohort experience will include a combination of group meetings and individual coaching. *The program will run from January to May. Applications will become available in September.*



Customized Services – Our staff and partners can come to your campus or organization to provide consultation, training, and facilitation. Starting each summer, we will take requests for virtual and on-campus customized services for the coming academic year on a first-come, first-served basis. *Contact Kara at ktrebilsmith@compact.org with inquiries.*

Consultations – Connect with us virtually or during an in-person visit to ask questions, talk through ideas, and share insights about civic engagement, community-engaged learning, community partnerships, and how the civic mission and public purposes of higher education connect with the values, work, and culture of your campus and community. *Contact Kara at ktrebilsmith@compact.org with inquiries.*

Benefits of membership in the national Campus Compact network

- Community Engagement Professional Credentialing Program
- Newman Civic Fellowship
- Engaged Scholars Initiative
- The Research Engagement University Network (TRUCEN)

Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA – Full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members support campus-community partnerships, meeting basic needs and improving educational outcomes for low-income college students, and addressing racial disparities in health, education, or economic outcomes. *Applications to host a member open in fall.*

Civic Leaders AmeriCorps Program – Students and graduates serve in full-time and part-time AmeriCorps positions to mentor students who identify as first-generation, low-income, and students of color and/or engaging in meaningful community and civic engagement experiences. *This program is only available to member campuses in Iowa. Contact Monique at mellefson@compact.org with inquiries.*

Civic Agency Workshops – Members have access to more than 20 workshop facilitation guides to build civic agency and leadership capacity. *Guides are available online; staff will lead workshops upon request.*

Annual Awards Event – An annual opportunity for each campus to honor and celebrate exemplary civic and community engagement work of students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community partners. *Award nominations due February; the event will be held in April in Minnesota.*

**Questions about member benefits and services can be directed to
info@seed-coalition.org**