

MAKING STUDENT LEADERSHIP MATTER

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A Student Leadership Team.

Our goal is to maximize the future success and professional development of all of our students – this means to us that students matter. We aim to nurture the growth and development of our entire student body and our student body comes to us with a wide range of educational and professional goals. The majority come to us for exactly what we offer inside the program – nothing more and nothing less. This leaves a small group of students that always wants more. This means giving them more – more opportunities to learn and develop outside the technical components of the curriculum providing space to grow into the future leaders of the industry. Yes, Student Leaders!

In career-focused programs, creating leadership opportunities for students has not always been a priority. But, we all have them in each of our campuses and we work hard to develop strong student leadership teams that serve as a liaison between the student body and the staff and faculty of the institution. Our programs are 10-12 months in length which allows our student leadership team to continuously evolve in a natural progression from a newly appointed member to the student leadership president. Although we have dedicated positions on the student leadership team, the team members work together to help the entire student body.

The titles that are held within the Leadership team are congruent to titles they may hold in future positions in the field:

- **President & Vice President** move the rest of the team through a process of thought, budget, goal setting & future development.

- **Two Art Directors**, carrying the responsibility to connect with the education team and inspire the students around them.
- **The Financial Director** organizes and overlooks budgets & accounting for the team.
- **The Marketing Director** connects with outside & inside sources to organize future events leading to more valuable experiences for the student body.
- **Plus 2-4 additional members** on the team to help support, while learning the objectives and goals of the team.

Our **student leadership team** has a biweekly meeting, staff member guided in order to maintain growth, development & coaching. They introduce themselves to the new starting class monthly, offering a support connection from the beginning & throughout their enrollment.

Aligning with the Institution's Spotlight culture, the **student leadership team** works diligently in the areas of morale, community service, & growth. This group also organizes all fundraising for our Annual Student Catwalk. This includes theme days which creates a fun, positive experience for students. They bring education development ideas from the student body to the staff/administration to continuously maximize the overall education and experience for all. We schedule ten minutes of every assembly for the student leadership team to present upcoming initiatives and events to the entire student body maintaining the peer to peer support mechanism. Students are eligible to apply to the student leadership team upon completing the first 8 weeks of classroom education, & 4 weeks on the clinic floor. Based on all of these opportunities for students, we have found that student leadership matters. Empowering the student body to have a voice in the decision-making process of the student leadership team develops healthy leadership characteristics and a healthy school community helping to break down the walls that can crop up between students and staff of great Institutions. After they leave us, students carry these leadership characteristics forward into their careers and increase opportunities for their lifelong success. Give the students the tools and let's see what they can build.

If you want tips on setting up a Student Leadership Team at your school please contact ACCSC and our school will be happy to pass along more information.