



# Experiential Learning Model RESOURCE GUIDE



## AlamoEXPERIENCE Model



ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE

NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

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## WHAT IS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING?

Experiential learning provides a real-world understanding that enhances academic success. It is the process of learning through experience, where students are actively involved in the experience, reflect on the activity, and apply the value of the experience to broader areas of life. Self-reflection empowers students to take charge of their own learning and make connections to launch their career journey.



## FOUR CATEGORIES OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

1

### Co-Curricular

Activities related to course curriculum

*Examples: Classroom-based learning projects, public speakers, panel discussions, research projects, and faculty-led study abroad*

2

### Extracurricular

Activities that foster student involvement and strengthen the culture of the institution.

*Examples: Student clubs and organizations, sports, student leadership, and study abroad*

3

### Field Experience

Hands-on workplace learning that directly relates to career application

*Examples: Apprenticeships, internships, community/private sector work study, clinicals, field observations, and student teaching*

4

### Service Learning

Activities that combine learning objectives, teach civic responsibility, and meet the community's needs

*Examples: Volunteering with college advocacy centers, San Antonio Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and other non-profit organizations*



# AlamoEXPERIENCE

## THE MODEL, THE PLATFORM, THE EXPERIENCE TRANSCRIPT

### AlamoEXPERIENCE MODEL, PLATFORM, EXPERIENCE TRANSCRIPT

#### THE MODEL

#### THE AlamoEXPERIENCE MODEL

Partners with employers to ensure every student connects to an experiential learning experience, to provide students with the opportunity to explore career choices and develop relevant connections in their chosen industry.

#### THE PLATFORM

#### THE AlamoEXPERIENCE PLATFORM

Allows students to explore opportunities, capture their work, and connect with employers while building their résumés with the Experience Transcript.

#### THE EXPERIENCE TRANSCRIPT

#### THE EXPERIENCE TRANSCRIPT

A verified record, documenting student's engagement, to include experiential learning experiences.

### HOW TO ACCESS THE EXPERIENCE TRANSCRIPT

- Log into **ACES** and select **Student Tab**
- Scroll down and select **AlamoEXPERIENCE**
- Click the **Sign-in** button
- Click on your **Account Profile**
- Scroll down and select **Experience Transcript**
- Click **Print//View PDF**



A college degree or certificate often plays an essential role in achieving career goals, but the skills obtained through experiential learning can give students confidence in their career path and make an application stand out to potential employers.

Experiential learning can play a critical role in providing students with hands-on experience and personal reflection. The soft skills gained can also give them the marketable skills they need for employment after graduation.



## AlamoEXPERIENCE Model



Our experiential learning model, AlamoEXPERIENCE, provides students with a variety of opportunities that supplement their classroom learning, develop new skills and build connections for their future careers.

**Mission:** Provide students across the Alamo Colleges District with experiential learning opportunities that enhance student learning and guide career pathways

**Vision:** Transform every student's life through experiential learning

## AlamoEXPERIENCE Platform



Students can find experiential learning opportunities and capture their involvement using the AlamoEXPERIENCE platform. The AlamoEXPERIENCE platform is accessed in ACES ([aces.alamo.edu](https://aces.alamo.edu)) through the Student tab.

Faculty and staff also have access to the platform on the ACES Employee tab. Employees can view existing opportunities and even add new experiential learning opportunities to engage students across the Alamo Colleges District.

### Experience Transcript

This transcript highlights the students' experiences in a document can inform students' resumes, or even downloaded and shared on job, internship, college transfer, and scholarship applications. To access your Experience Transcript:

1

Access the AlamoEXPERIENCE portal through ACES

2

Click on your Account Profile and select Experience Transcript

3

Click "Print View/PDF"

## AlamoEXPERIENCE Guiding Principles



- Every student will have completed some experiential learning by graduation
- Experiential learning will engage students in reflecting on structured, purposeful opportunities
- Every student will be able to apply their experiential learning in a setting that may guide their career pathway
- All experiential learning may be captured through the AlamoEXPERIENCE Transcript

For more information, visit [alamo.edu/experience](https://alamo.edu/experience).



## HOW DO I KNOW IF AN ACTIVITY QUALIFIES AS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING?

The goal of experiential learning is to provide opportunities to students to supplement their classroom learning, develop their skills and build connections for their future careers.

Experiential learning opportunities include co-curricular learning, extra-curricular activities, field experience and service learning/community service.

Below is a checklist to determine how to designate an activity as experiential learning.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CHECKLIST

- ☒ Connect with your campus Career Experience Team Lead and/or Certified Career Experience Navigator
- ☒ Align each activity with one of the four experiential learning opportunities
- ☒ Ensure activity allows student(s) to apply and demonstrate soft-skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, etc.
- ☒ Provide opportunities for self-reflection to empower student to make academic and experience connections related to career pathway
- ☒ Ensure each experience meets one or more of the [NACE competencies and Institutional Learning Outcomes \(ILO\)](#)
- ☒ Record and share student attendance (name, banner ID) with Certified Career Experience Navigator to record in AlamoEXPERIENCE for credit on transcript

The logo for Alamo Experience is a circular emblem. Inside the circle, there is a blue rectangle with the words "ALAMO EXPERIENCE" in white. Below this rectangle are five horizontal bars of different colors (green, purple, blue, green, red) each containing the name of a college in white text: "NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE", "NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE", "PALO ALTO COLLEGE", "ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE", and "SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE".

ALAMO  
EXPERIENCE

NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE

NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE

PALO ALTO COLLEGE

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

# CREATING AN EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING EVENT

## CONTACTS

## ORGANIZING AN EL EVENT?

### Career Experience Team Leaders

[NLC](#)

[NVC](#)

[PAC](#)

[SAC](#)

[SPC](#)

### FACULTY AND STAFF

If you are organizing an experiential learning event and would like students to get credit for the event, submit the employee-initiated form. This will allow students who attend and participate in the event to earn credit on their Experience Transcript.

### EMPLOYEE-INITIATED FORMS

Submit the **Employee-Initiated Experiential Learning Form** and a roster from your event. We will ensure students are awarded credit on their Experience Transcript. See **page 8** for instructions on how to find your college-specific form.

Contact your **Career Experience Team Leader** to inquire about funding for sponsoring experiential learning projects or events.

## WHERE DO I FIND AlamoEXPERIENCE?

All **Faculty**, **Staff**, and **Students** have access to AlamoEXPERIENCE through ACES.

### Faculty and Staff

Access through ACES under the **Employee Tab**.

### Students

Access through ACES under the **Student Tab**.

AlamoEXPERIENCE

AlamoEXPERIENCE

Discover co-curricular, extra-curricular, service-learning, and experiential learning opportunities

ALAMO  
EXPERIENCE

<https://alamo.campuslabs.com/engage>



# CONNECTING TO YOUR COLLEGE BRANCH/ORGANIZATION

## LOCATING YOUR COLLEGE BRANCH/ORGANIZATION

Each college has their own branch/organization where you can go to find your college's AlamoEXPERIENCE information. You can request to become a member of your college branch and find your college-specific **Employee-Initiated Experiential Learning Form**.

Here are the steps to get you to your college branch/organization.

## FINDING YOUR EMPLOYEE-INITIATED EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FORM

### FOR ALL COLLEGES

- Log into **ACES**
- Select the **Employee Tab**
- Scroll down and click on **AlamoEXPERIENCE**
- Sign into **AlamoEXPERIENCE**

### NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE

- In the search bar, type **NLC Career Engaged Learning**



NLC Career Engaged Learning

- Scroll down to the **Forms** section
- Click on **NLC Employee-Initiated Experiential Learning Form**

### NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE

- In the search bar, type **NVC Experiential Learning**



NVC Experiential Learning

- Scroll down to the **Forms** section
- Click on **NVC Employee-Initiated Experiential Learning (Event Detail Form)**



## PALO ALTO COLLEGE

- In the search bar, type **PAC Career and Experiential Learning**



PAC Career and Experiential Learning

- Scroll down to the **Forms** section
- Click on **PAC-Experiential Learning Employee Initiated Form**

## ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

- In the search bar type **SPC Career Readiness and Experiential Learning Services**



SPC Career Readiness and Experiential Learning Services

- Scroll down to the **Forms** section
- Click on **SPC Employee Initiated Experiential Learning Form**

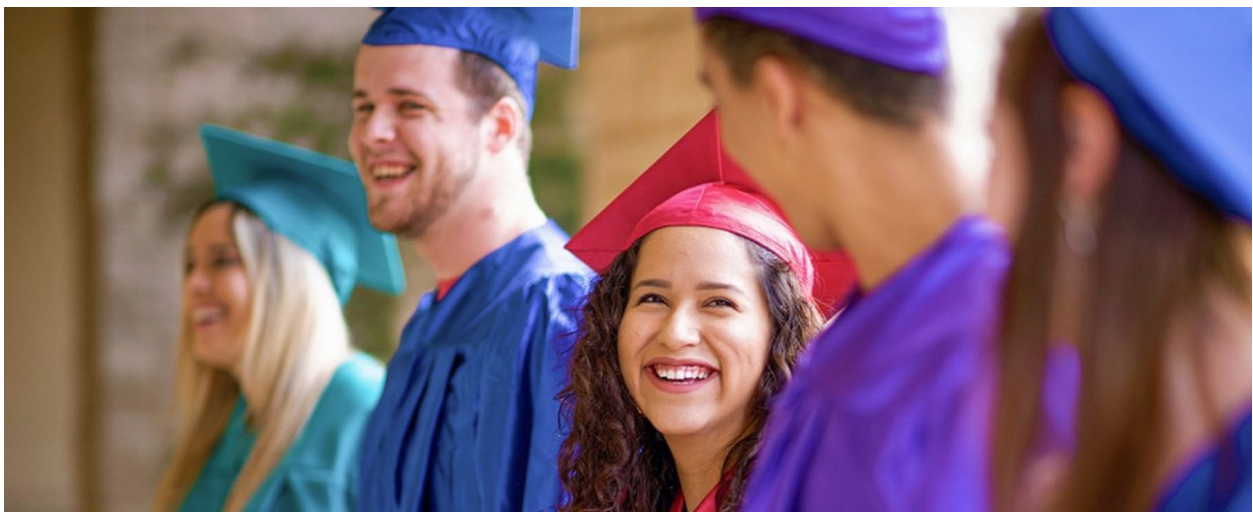
## SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

- In the search bar Type **SAC Experiential Learning**



SAC Experiential Learning

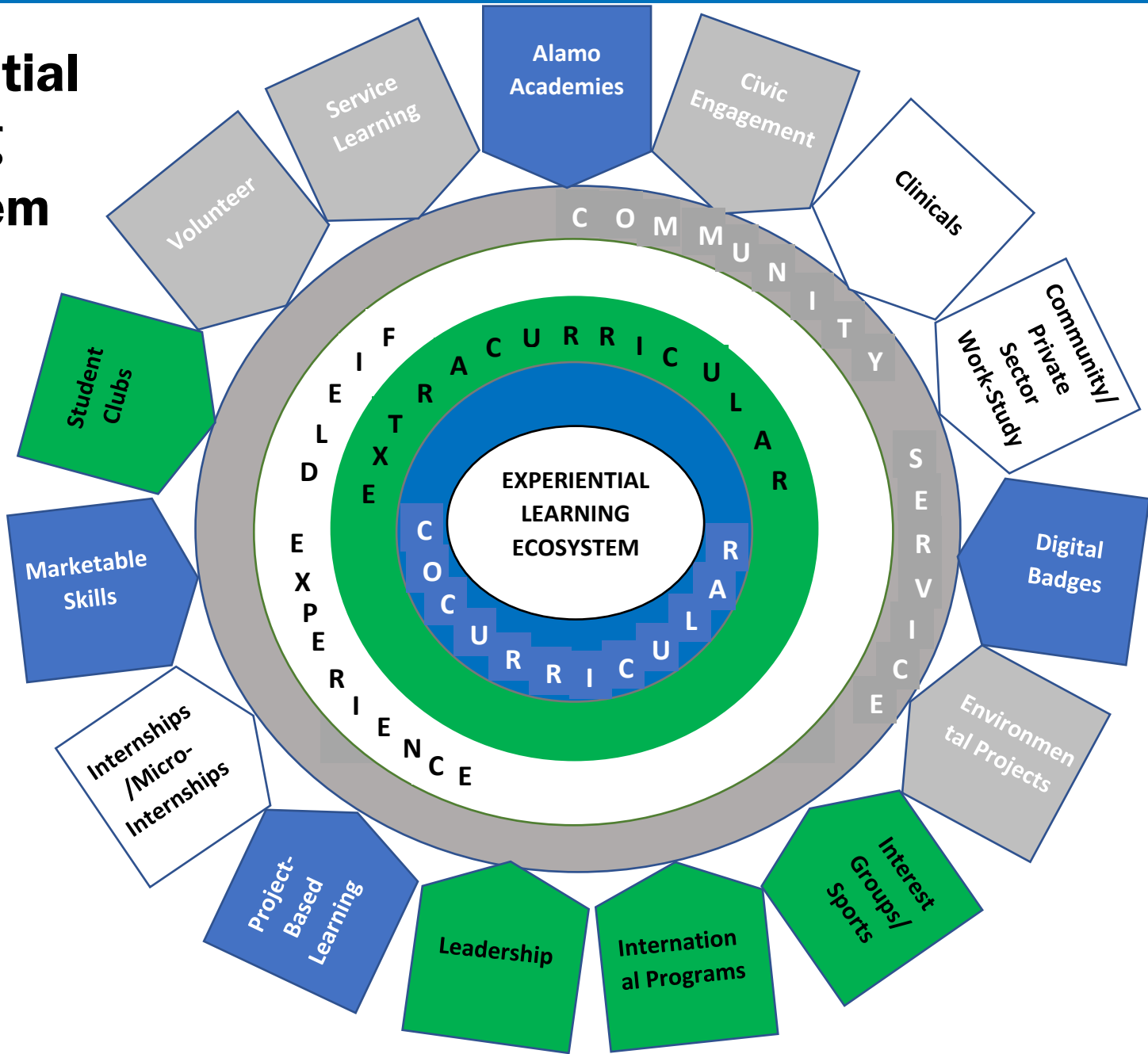
- Scroll down to the **Forms** section
- Click on **SAC Employee-Initiated Experiential Learning Form**





|                            |
|----------------------------|
| NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE |
| NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE    |
| PALO ALTO COLLEGE          |
| ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE       |
| SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE        |

## Experiential Learning Ecosystem





## ALAMOEXPERIENCE MODEL DEFINITIONS AND FOUR TYPES LOGIC

The AlamoEXPERIENCE Experiential Learning Model Task Force, defines experiential learning as the development of new skills and/or perspectives gained through experience and personal reflection.

Participation in high-impact practices, including experiential learning, improve the quality of a student's experience, learning, retention, and success.

The Alamo Colleges District categorized experiential learning into four types of experiences:

- Co-curricular
- Service Learning/Community Services
- Extra-curricular activities
- Field Experience

### Co-curricular Learning

### Service Learning / Community Service

### Extra-curricular Activities

### Field Experience

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Every Experiential Learning (EL) experience will provide students the opportunity to:

- Engage in and reflect on structured, purposeful activities.
- Apply EL experience in a setting that may guide and inform their career pathway.
- Complete an EL experience by graduation, captured on an AlamoEXPERIENCE transcript.



## Definitions of the Four Types of Experiential Learning Experiences

| Co-curricular                                                                                                           | Extra-curricular                                                                                                                                                                                               | Service Learning/<br>Community Service                                                                                                                                                         | Field Experience                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Activities that complement course curriculum, support the academic experience, and strengthen retention and completion. | Purposeful activities/events that foster student involvement, strengthen the culture of the institution, enhance the student engagement experience, and promote completion not connected to course curriculum. | A learning opportunity that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. | The application of career competencies that allows for the development or enhancement of skills necessary for intended profession, with one week or more of extensive work experience. |

### Examples\*

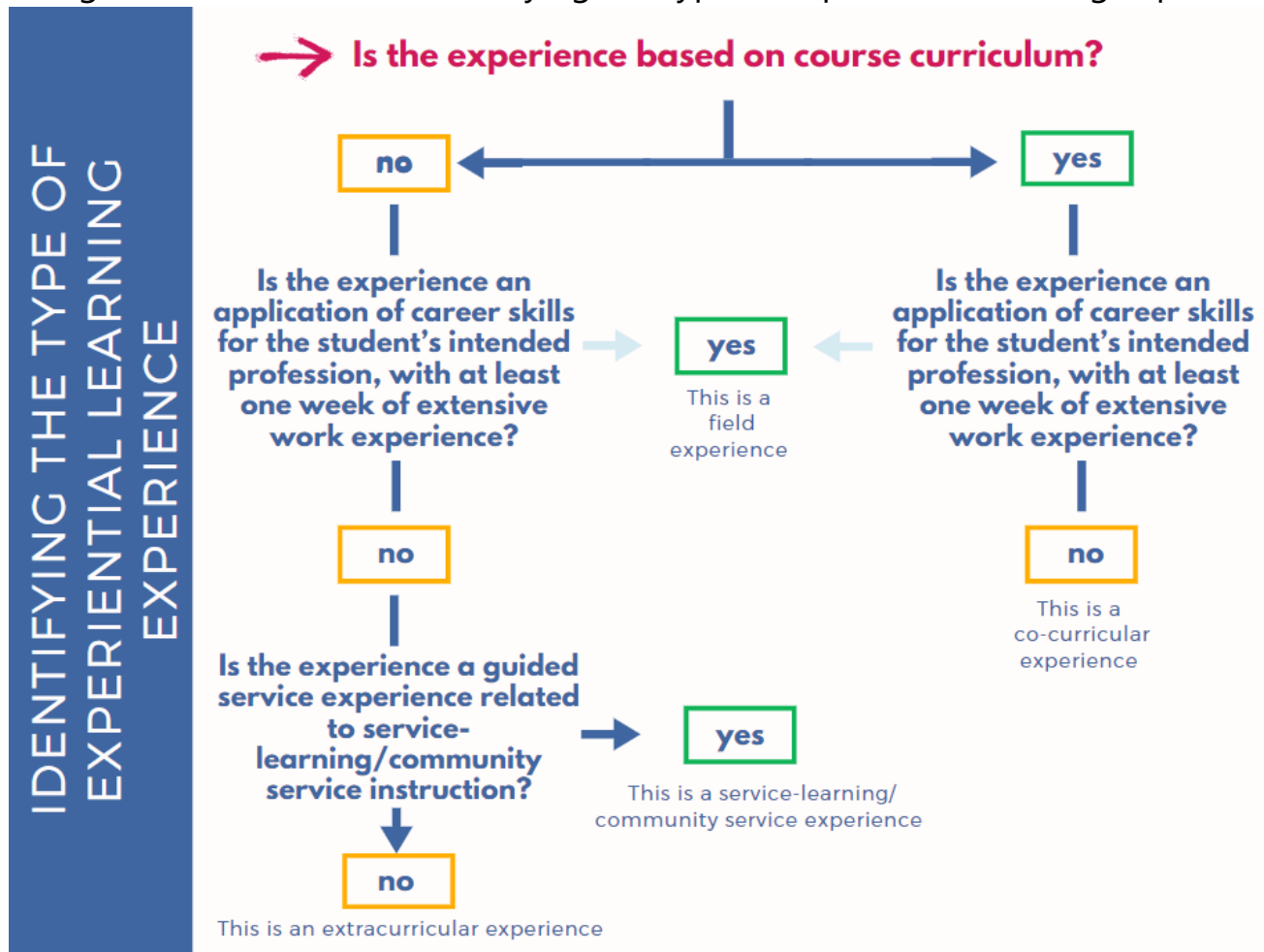
| Co-curricular                                                                                                                                                 | Extra-curricular                                                                                                                                                        | Service Learning/<br>Community Service                                                                                                                                                     | Field Experience                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Completion & reflection on:<br>-Project based learning<br>-Research project<br>-Publications<br>-Reflective Essay<br>-Course portfolio<br>-Video presentation | Participation & reflection on:<br>-Guest Speakers/Panels<br>-Student Clubs<br>-Student Organizations<br>-Interest Groups/Sports<br>-Student Leadership<br>-Career Fairs | Participation & reflection on:<br>-Community service<br>-Civic engagement<br>-Environmental projects<br>-Volunteer work at the Student Advocacy Center, Food Bank, or Habitat for Humanity | Completion & reflection on:<br>-Internships<br>-Practicums<br>-Apprenticeships<br>-Clinicals<br>-Student teaching<br>-Private-sector and community-based work-study |

\*Exceptions to the examples will occur. Refer to the logic on the next page to select the experience type.



## Identifying the Type of Experiential Learning Experience

The logic below assists with classifying the type of experiential learning experience:



## Additional Considerations

### Study Abroad

- Faculty-led Study Abroad programs where students receiving academic credit for a course are classified as **Co-curricular**.
- Study Abroad experiences without academic credit are classified as **Extra-curricular**.

# Study Abroad





## Scenario of the Four Types of Experiences: Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity

### Field Experience

- A student applying career skills developed in the Electrical Trades Level I Certificate program, by volunteering electrical systems work is classified as a **Field Experience**.

### Field Experience

- A student volunteering as an [AmeriCorps long-term volunteer](#), applying the application of career skills, is classified as a **Field Experience**.

### Service Learning/Community Service

- A student volunteering through the college Service Learning Center or independently, for a [build event](#), is classified as a **Service Learning/Community Service** as the experience integrates meaningful community service.

### Co-curricular Learning

- A student volunteering for a [build event](#), as part of a course's curriculum assignment with a reflection component, is classified as a **Co-curricular**.

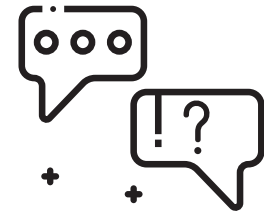
### Extra-curricular Activities

- A student attending a guest speaker series, with a Habitat for Humanity representative, is classified as an **Extra-curricular** activity.



## CONTACT US

Want to learn more? Contact one of our Career Experience Team Leaders, located at each college and DSO, to find out how you can support students through AlamoEXPERIENCE.



### NORTHEAST LAKEVIEW COLLEGE

|                     |                                                |                |                       |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Peggy Chavez</b> | <a href="#">Career Engaged Learning Office</a> | (210) 486-5143 | nlc-careers@alamo.edu |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|

### NORTHWEST VISTA COLLEGE

|                        |                                 |                |                    |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Abreetta Bonner</b> | <a href="#">Career Services</a> | (210) 486-4151 | nvc-cats@alamo.edu |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|

### PALO ALTO COLLEGE

|            |                                 |                |                    |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>TBD</b> | <a href="#">Career Services</a> | (210) 486-3121 | pac-jobs@alamo.edu |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|

### ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

|                        |                                                    |                |                        |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| <b>Nathan Martinez</b> | <a href="#">Career Readiness &amp; EL Services</a> | (210) 486-2351 | nmartinez324@alamo.edu |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|

### SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE

|                              |                                 |                |                   |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Sabrina Macal-Polasek</b> | <a href="#">Career Services</a> | (210) 486-0365 | sac-sec@alamo.edu |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|

### ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT

|                                 |                                 |                |                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Cynthia Hernandez-Guerra</b> | <a href="#">AlamoEXPERIENCE</a> | (210) 485-0164 | dst-careers@alamo.edu |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|

#### JOB BOARD: HANDSHAKE

Find jobs, internships and connect with employers.



#### AlamoEXPERIENCE

Access AlamoEXPERIENCE through AlamoShare:  
[share.alamo.edu/studentsuccess/AlamoEXPERIENCE](https://share.alamo.edu/studentsuccess/AlamoEXPERIENCE)

For more information, visit [alamo.edu/experience](https://alamo.edu/experience)