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# Activities Every Student Should Try Before the School Year Ends

## Get involved before the end of the school year

It may seem early to start thinking about your plans, but the school year goes by quickly with assignments, projects, activities, and life outside of school. So, while it's still early in the semester, **now's the time to think about what activities you can get involved in this year** so you don't miss out!



## Why you should get involved

Whether it's your final year of high school, your first year of university, your final year of post-secondary school, or anything in between, there's a lot of opportunities available throughout the year. By getting involved, you'll **gain valuable skills, create meaningful connections, boost your resumé, and discover your passions**. These are all useful as you continue your education and prepare for your career. Make sure you consider activities from all aspects of your school life so you can get the most out of your school year.

## Academic activities

Academic activities vary depending where you are in your education, but there's always plenty to choose from. Academic activities will **focus on how you can improve your education in the classroom**. Boost your educational experience and try out some of these activities:

### 1. Visit office hours

Whether you're in high school, university, or college, you should **talk to your teacher or professor outside of the classroom**. In university and college, professors will often hold office hours, giving you the opportunity to speak to your instructor, one-on-one, on just about anything. If you need help with an assignment, don't understand something from class, or just want to get to know them a bit more, this is the time to do it!

While high school teachers won't have set office hours, you should still make time to meet with them one-on-one. By making connections with your teachers and professors, you can **use them as references for school, scholarship, and job applications** — hugely important later on down the line.

## 2. Speak in front of your class

Speaking in front of your class is a great way to **build your soft skills, such as presenting, curiosity, and confidence**. Whether you do this through a pre-assigned project, or by asking questions in class, the more you put yourself out there and speak up, the easier it'll get. You'll be better prepared for your next steps in life — university, college, grad school, or your career.

## 3. Participate in an academic club

Clubs and groups that are formed around academic subjects are a great way to **meet students who have the same interests**. You're likely to get extra help if you don't understand something from that subject, gain a group of classmates you can study with, and get involved with activities related to your subject.

For example, in high school, you can **join clubs** like Model UN if you're interested in politics, debate club if you're wanting to build your speaking skills, or DECA if you like business. In university, **most programs will have a club or association run by students from that program**. For example, if your major is Psychology, you could join the Psychology Students Association. These types of clubs will help you further develop in your subject areas of interest.



## 4. Join your student government

Make a difference at your school. Joining your student government is a great way to **gain skills like confidence, empowerment, critical thinking, empathy, and determination**. Depending on your interests, you could pursue a prominent position, such as student body president, or you could be more behind the scenes, as a secretary or treasurer. Each role is important, so consider something that suits your personality and style.

## Extracurricular activities

Don't forget to **get involved outside the classroom as well!** The extracurricular activities you pursue can influence what you want to study, your career path, and your interests. There are so many opportunities at schools that you're sure to find something that you like.

If you're not sure where to start, **consider some of these activities:**

## 1. Sports

When you participate in sports, you **gain a community**. Your teammates will experience wins and defeats together, helping you **develop skills like collaboration, communication, and leadership**. Even if you aren't interested in playing any sport, you can still **cheer on your school** at one of their games. The team will be thrilled to have you in the stands.

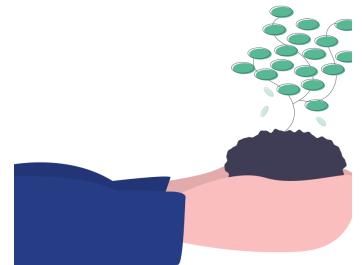


## 2. Arts

Whether you enjoy photography, visual arts, music, theatre, film, yearbook committee, dance, or any other art activities, there will be a club or committee for you. Participating in the arts is sure to **encourage your creative side**, aiding your education and career. You'll **develop skills like problem solving, perseverance, and time management**. You never know what passions you may spark in these clubs.

## 3. Activism

Are you a **passionate person** who cares about the world around you? You'll make a difference in the world by **raising awareness and making changes within your school**. There are plenty of clubs at school that you could join: social justice, environmental club, etc. — or if what you're interested in isn't available, you can **create your own club!**



## 4. Volunteering

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at your school or within your community. You can help fundraise for a charity, support a school sports team, MC an event, visit the elderly in a retirement home, and more. **Volunteer activities look great on a resumé and will help you build valuable connections you can use for life.**

## Have fun getting involved

The point of getting involved is to **make the most of your year!** You've been limited the past few years by covid, so now's the time to **get involved, discover your passions, build connections, and have fun!**

