

THE ACE NETWORK COLLEGE CREDITS

COLLEGE CREDIT

The ACE Network offers participating students the opportunity to gain college credit through the School of Education at Clemson University. Students may apply for Special Admission to Clemson University and take the course titled Leadership, Citizenship, and Community Service (ED 1900).

Course requirements include participation in representative state programs, journaling/blogging, completion of learning modules on leadership, and the development of a Service Learning Plan. Course requirements outside of state program participation are delivered via distance education format. Successful completion of the course entitles participants to 3 credit hours at Clemson University. In addition, students may use the included transcript request form to request that the credits be considered for dual credit at their respective high school and transferred to the college or university of their choice.

By offering a quality educational experience that includes credit for college, your program can realize:

- **Increased engagement**
"I thought this was a great idea and course. It made it necessary to pay attention in the instructional time, when I may not have if this was not required"
- **Parental "Buy in"**
"My mom wanted me to come to Girls State to get the college credit"
- **Enhanced Competitiveness among Summer Programs**

COURSE EVALUATION

Students enrolled in ED 1900 will participate in course requirements that will also serve to inform your program. First, students will complete a survey related to your state program and related activities. This will be conducted online after your participants return home. Secondly, students will participate in daily journaling/blogging while in attendance at your program. The objective of this activity is to engage students in reflective practice associated with your program.

If your state program has at least 10% of your population participating in ED 1900, the ACE Network will provide a Program Evaluation document in early fall from the perspectives of your participants. Comments and recommendations will be anonymous but the feedback can be invaluable for program planning and changes.

The journals/blogs will be submitted electronically during or after successful completion of the representative state program. All submissions and follow-ups for assistance will be coordinated by the ACE Network. All you have to do is join in.

SERVICE LEARNING

Students enrolled in ED 1900 will develop Service Learning Plans to initiate projects within their local schools and communities. The objective is to provide participants with a framework for planning a service learning initiative that has the potential to impact their community in positive ways. Participants will gain or enhance the skills necessary to work collaboratively with individuals, families, and community groups from diverse backgrounds. Each participant will be provided the opportunity to receive guidance and assistance from university students interested in leading service initiatives. Clemson University is home for the International Center for Service Learning in Teacher Education and is therefore uniquely qualified to provide leadership for these projects. Among the services provided to interested participants is the guidance in applying for and securing external funding to support their projects. The ultimate outcome is an extension of the impact of your state program.

The Service Learning Plans will be submitted electronically after successful completion of the representative state program. All submissions and follow-ups for assistance will be coordinated by the ACE Network. All you have to do is join in.

For more information about the cost per credit, benefits and possibilities of these components in conjunction with enrollment in the course, **contact the ACE Network at <http://theacenetwork.com/>**