



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

THE IOP'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SHAPING POLITICS AND POLICY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Through student-led projects, undergraduate and graduate students engage in a wide range of community efforts, from tutoring individuals in the citizenship pipeline to providing digital consulting for South Side Chicago organizations. Students also lead voter engagement efforts across campus to ensure that UChicago students register to vote, learn about the candidates on their ballot and vote on primary and election days.

Among its civic engagement work, the IOP provides four core leadership development programs for students. Through Leaders of Color, the Shriver Program for Leadership in Public Service, TechTeam, and the Women in Public Service Program, IOP students engage with public service leaders, develop leadership and conflict resolution skills, and learn about careers in public service.

Beyond Chicago, the IOP hosts political exploration trips to introduce students to different political systems and practitioners making an impact throughout politics and public service.

These trips broaden students' perspectives and provide first-hand opportunities to learn about key issues and professional preparation for relevant careers. Destinations have included Washington, D.C., Springfield, IL., Des Moines, IA., China and Cuba, and most recently, the 2016 Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

Nearly 500 students each year engage in the IOP's civic engagement efforts, providing direct impact to Chicago area communities and enabling students to delve into issues that are important to them.

Support for the IOP Civic Engagement program comes from Bloomberg Philanthropies, Michael and Jennifer Freedman, Howard L. Gottlieb Foundation and the Sargent Shriver Peace Institute.

"The Women in Public Service Program (WSP) has been the highlight of my entire university experience... Civic Engagement is the foundation of the IOP's mission. If this is a training ground for future public servants of this country and the world, this program is where public service happens."

- MAIRA KHWAJA, AB'16
founder of WSP