

ASLER STANDARDS

Members of the Alliance for Service Learning in Education Reform (ASLER) developed these standards to promote quality in school-based and community-based service learning programs.

- I. Effective service-learning efforts strengthen service and academic learning.
- II. Model service learning provides concrete opportunities for youth to learn new skills, to think critically, and to test new roles in an environment that encourages risk-taking and rewards competence.
- III. Preparation and reflection are essential elements in service learning.
- IV. Youths' efforts are recognized by those served, including their peers, the school, and the community.
- V. Youth are involved in the planning.
- VI. The service students perform makes a meaningful contribution to the community.
- VII. Effective service learning integrates systematic formative and summative evaluation.
- VIII. Service learning connects the school or sponsoring organization and its community in new and positive ways.
- IX. Service learning is understood and supported as an integral element in the life of a school or sponsoring organization and its community.
- X. Skilled adult guidance and supervision are essential to the success of service learning.
- XI. Preservice training, orientation, and staff development that include the philosophy and methodology of service learning best ensure that program quality and continuity are maintained.

Source: Standards of Quality for School-based and Community-based Service-Learning, Alliance for ServiceLearning in Education Reform, March, 1995.

If your Service-Learning Project meets six to seven of these eleven ASLER Standards, you have a project that is consistent in the principles of Service-Learning.