

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY Office of Government and Community Relations

Working in collaboration with our neighbors, community partners and public officials, the Office of Local Government and Community Relations advances the university's vision of community engagement and investment. The office strengthens relationships with community stakeholders, expands the visibility of the university throughout Ohio and nationally, and increases resources for university initiatives.

Impact

Our community engagement initiatives and programs include:

- **Community Relations Newsletter:** News about campus events and resources, distributed to 1,000+ email subscribers.
- **CWRU Community Card:** Program for residents of Cleveland Wards 4-10 and the City of East Cleveland; provides access to campus assets and discounts at on- and off-campus businesses.
- **Collaboratory:** Centralized and searchable database of CWRU's community engagement and service activities; focus and efficacy data is also collected, analyzed, and shared.
- **Neighborhood Advisory Council:** 20-member council of residents, nonprofit leaders and CWRU representatives who meet with university leadership to facilitate and strengthen neighborhood relationships.
- Wade Park Community Engagement Center: A community hub and meeting space and home to the Office of Government and Community Relations.
- **Community Engagement Grant Program:** Up to \$5,000 in grant funding for CWRU community members to advance community-engaged problem solving or community enhancement initiatives.
- **Community Engagement Quarterly Meetings:** CWRU community members connect, network, and share updates and best practices about community engagement.
- **Good Neighbor Surveys:** Periodic survey to gauge community perception of CWRU as a "good neighbor" and to suggest ideas for improvement.
- Pre-Collegiate Programs: Academic year and summer programs for local K-12 students.
- **McBride Community Lecture Series:** Lectures and related activities on a range of cultural, scientific and civic subjects that are of interest to the community.



Scan to learn more about the Office of Local Government & Community Relations



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Wade Park Community Engagement Center

The Wade Park Community Engagement Center, located at 11310 Wade Park Avenue, is home to the Office of Government and Community Relations and a vibrant hub and meeting space for the local community. Opened in fall 2024, the main floor of the renovated historic home includes three state-of-the art meeting rooms and a kitchen, all available for the public to reserve (9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays). The offices of several Local Government and Community Relations staff members are on the second floor.

Benefits and Impact

- Dedicated location for CWRU community- facing activities and programs.
- Space for CWRU faculty and students to gather with community members to learn together and create opportunities to enhance education, health and wellness, and economic development.
- Free, ADA-accessible and safe meeting place for community members and partners.



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Scan to learn more about the Wade Park Community Engagement Center or to reserve a meeting room





Neighborhood Advisory Council

The Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) serves as the community representative to Case Western Reserve University leadership and advises on relevant issues, programs and projects that impact people in the surrounding neighborhoods. Originally conceived by the Welcoming Campus Working Group—a committed group of neighborhood residents, CWRU faculty and staff, and representatives of University Circle institutions—the NAC was established in 2021 as a 20-member representative body of community members, local leaders, and university faculty, staff, and students.

NAC Member Responsibilities

- Attend monthly meetings during the academic year and special meetings/events in the summer.
- Foster a sense of welcoming on campus to engage neighbors in university activities.
- **Build trust and respect** between neighborhood residents and CWRU through relationshipbuilding, programming, dialogue, and transparency.
- **Identify community needs** and collaborate to develop solutions that benefit the common good.
- Support the work of CWRU organizations that are committed to community engagement.



Join the NAC

NAC member terms begin January 1. Applications are accepted annually August 30 to October 30. Members serve three-year terms with a twoterm limit.



Scan to learn more about the NAC

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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY Office of Government and Community Relations

Pre-Collegiate Programs

The Office of Pre-Collegiate Programs provides high quality and engaging youth development and extra-curricular programming yearround. Programming occurs on campus and at community locations in partnership with youth-serving organizations. We empower K-12 youth to imagine with curiosity and live their lives as healthy, scholarly, global, civic-minded and engaged citizens.

Signature K-12 Programs

- Math Corps Super Saturdays: Eight-week math program during winter months for students in grades 7-12; CWRU students serve as mentors. The program complements Cleveland State University's summer Math Corps program.
- National Youth Sports Program (NYSP): Five-week summer experience that combines sports, education, career planning, and health services; more than 300 Greater Cleveland youth ages 8-16 attend annually.
- **Project STEP-UP:** Tutoring and mentoring for students in grades K-12 at various sites.
- **Provost Scholars Program:** Academic, college readiness and mentoring program for students in grades 6-12 from Ginn Academy, Cleveland School of the Arts, Shaw High School, and Kirk Middle School.
- **TRiO Talent Search and Upward Bound:** Talent Search provides college-readiness preparation and mentoring to students in grades 6-12 from the East Cleveland and Euclid City School Districts; Upward Bound

prepares economically disadvantaged students in grades 9-12 from Euclid High School and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District for successful postsecondary studies.

• **thinkSTEM:** Two-week summer day camp that offers students entering grades 7-9 hands-on activities and learning that explores fundamental engineering concepts.



Scan to learn more about Pre-Collegiate Programs





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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY Office of Pre-Collegiate Programs

thinkSTEM Summer Camp

thinkSTEM is a two-week summer day camp that offers Northeast Ohio students entering grades 7-9 the opportunity to learn about different types of engineering through hands-on activities and a rigorous curriculum that explores fundamental engineering concepts. Campers study the basic principles of science and mathematics that allow us to create the devices, structures, processes, and systems that are so important to our daily lives.

Program Components

- Lectures and presentations from CWRU's excellent engineering faculty.
- Engaging, engineering-themed field trips.
- Hands-on engagement at Sears think[box], CWRU's innovation center and makerspace.
- Healthy, nutritious meals for all attendees served on-campus.
- Daily sessions explore the major branches of engineering, including aerospace, biomedical, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, chemical, and computers and software.
- Program cost is \$400 with a limited number of need-based scholarships.







thinkSTEM Impact

- **70%** of thinkSTEM campers report more interest in STEM because of thinkSTEM.
- **85%** of thinkSTEM campers report a deep connection with their graduate counselors and instructors, increasing the likelihood of their long-term participation in STEM.
- More than 95% of thinkSTEM campers would highly recommend the thinkSTEM Camp.

Learn more about thinkSTEM Day Camp



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National Youth Sports Program

The National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) at Case Western Reserve University is an enriching five-week summer experience that combines sports, education, nutrition, and health services for more than 300 Greater Cleveland participants ages 8-16 each year. During the program, participants play sports to improve their physical fitness and health habits, learn information about career choices, and engage in academic enrichment at CWRU. All participants receive free medical screenings and free daily nutritious meals, reinforcing the concept of good health for life.

Program Components

- Educate participants about career and educational opportunities.
- Expand sports skills through an extensive selection of offerings to improve physical fitness and promote an active lifestyle.
- Supervision and support provided by more than 50 professional athletes, local teachers, and college-age staff who are trained to support and nurture all students.



NYSP Impact

- 15,000+ Cleveland youth and young adults have participated in NYSP since its inception at CWRU in 1970.
- More than \$400,000 in generous public, private and university donations provide funding support for NYSP each year, 100% of which is applied to camp costs.
- For more than 55 years, NYSP's extensive alumni network has been a source of connection between participants.
- **1:8 staff to camper ratio** ensures each participant receives dedicated supervision and instruction from counselors who are background- and heart-checked to care for and coach campers.





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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY Office of Pre-Collegiate Programs Math Corps Super Saturdays @ CWRU

Math Corps Super Saturdays at CWRU is an 8-week math program for middle and high school students that meets during the winter months. Math Corps believes all children have a special greatness within them and that, through hard work and with the support of a caring community, this greatness can be realized. Together with the Math Corps Summer Camp offered at Cleveland State University, these programs enable students to develop their talents and support each other. All students in grades 7-12 in the greater Cleveland area are eligible for this free program.







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Program Components

- Math Corps students, teachers, and mentors are committed to helping each other realize their greatness through engaging workshops, morning meetings, and parent-student interactions.
- Mathematics is presented as a universal language that can be appreciated in the abstract and that helps us understand the world.
- Each student receives an individualized lesson plan for performance and progress.
- A learning curriculum which incorporates a growth mindset, peer mentoring, and interpersonal communications to improve competence and achieve growth.
- Discovery and appreciation for the wide applications of mathematical knowledge in careers and education.

Math Corps Impact

- **17% improvement in diagnostic and summative test scores** by middle school Math Corps participants.
- 12% improvement in diagnostic and summative test scores by high school Math Corps participants
- Math Corps observes a 1:3 teacher-to-student ratio, enabling Math Corps teachers to engage ensure each learner's individualized plan for growth is maximized.



Learn more about Math Corps @ CWRU



Provost Scholars Program

The Provost Scholars Program—presented in partnership with CWRU, East Cleveland City Schools, Ginn Academy, and the Cleveland School of the Arts—matches students in grades 6-12 with CWRU faculty and staff mentors and undergraduate and graduate student tutors to support and improve the students' academic and career outcomes.







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Program Components

- Academic and career planning: Scholars work with mentors to build an academic and career plan for success after high school and establish pathways to college.
- Intensive University Seminars: Scholars attend weekly seminars where they participate in academic lectures and field trips.
- **Personalized tutoring:** Scholars are paired with CWRU students to focus on core subjects, test preparation, organization, and time-management.
- **The Parents College:** Parents and guardians learn how to support their Scholar's long-term academic achievement during a monthly seminar.
- Family conferences and information nights: Program staff connect with families to clarify the program's goals and objectives.
- Summer Learning Institute: A free summer academic enrichment program.

Provost Scholars Impact

Since the founding of the Provost Scholars Program in 2013, there have been:

- 151 scholars
- 170 CWRU mentors
- 239 CWRU student tutors
- 55+ academic departments & programs represented
- **100% graduation rate** and admission to college, military service, or an alternative promising career trajectory







TRiO Programs

TRiO Upward Bound

Established in 1966, the TRIO Upward Bound Program is the oldest of the pre-college programs at Case Western Reserve University. This year-round program prepares low-income and potential first-generation college students for successful postsecondary studies. Upward Bound at CWRU serves students from Collinwood High School, John F. Kennedy High School, and Euclid High School with:

- Enrichment instruction and workshops
- Academic, personal, and career counseling
- College planning and placement including college visits, applying for college admissions, financial aid, and more
- Cultural activities, such as field trips to concerts and plays
- Course tutoring, SAT, ACT, PSAT, and Ohio graduation test preparation
- A six-week summer program in June and July

TRiO Talent Search

The Educational Talent Search (ETS) Project supports approximately 500

students each year in grades 6-12 in the East Cleveland and Euclid Schools. ETS identifies and selects students who demonstrate the potential for postsecondary enrollment and provides them with the motivation and support to enroll in a program of

postsecondary education after high school graduation through:

- Academic advisement, tutoring, and mentoring
- College, career, and financial aid awareness activities
- College and career field trips
- Group workshops and individual assistance with college admissions, scholarship applications, and financial aid forms

TRiO Impact

- 500 students served annually through Talent Search
- 113 students funded annually for Upward Bound



Learn more about the CWRU TRiO Programs





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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY Office of Pre-Collegiate Programs

Project STEP-UP

The award-winning Project STEP-UP (Student Tutoring Effort to Promote Utilization of Potential) initiative, founded in 1988, has provided school- and community-based academic tutoring and mentoring to K-12 students throughout the Cleveland area. Both volunteer and paid work-study students from CWRU serve as tutors for the program and agree to tutor at least one semester. Currently, Project STEP-UP provides support to Bolton Elementary School, Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School, and Cleveland Early College High School on the John Hay Campus, as well as other Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) and East Cleveland City Schools test sites.

Program Components

- **Tutor training:** Partner with leaders in CWRU's Emerging Scholars Program to identify, develop, and engage students to tutor in areas of Cleveland that are in greatest need of support.
- **Tutoring students:** Provide direct tutoring support in math, reading, and English for East Cleveland and CMSD students.
- **Teacher professional development:** Coordinate with partner schools to provide in-service training on literacy and mathematics interventions.
- Academic and cultural partnerships: Connect partner schools with opportunities for collaborations at CWRU and in the larger community.

Project STEP-UP Impact

- **Founding partner** of the Saturday Tutoring Program at Church of the Covenant in 1990.
- More than 100 books and supplies provided to youth and families in need over the summer 2024.
- More than 30 undergraduate and graduate tutors and support personnel were placed in CMSD and East Cleveland communities in the 2024-2025 academic year.
- More than 800 students were served in CMSD and East Cleveland partner schools in the 2024-2025 academic year.
- Provided more than 100 hours of federal and non-federal work study-funded tutoring for CMSD and East Cleveland partners in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Learn more about Project STEP-UP



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