



STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK 2024 GENERAL INFORMATION

Embark on a transformative journey with our Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trips, where social impact meets adventure! This year, we present two captivating destinations: New Orleans (NOLA) to focus on hunger and homelessness issues, and Phoenix, AZ addressing immigration reform. Engage in meaningful service, immerse yourself in diverse cultures, and contribute to positive change.

- **ASB Selection Process** - Applications are the first stage of the selection process. From the applications, we will invite students to a Group Process (held on Sunday, February 4th). After that, we will notify everyone of the decision for each of the ASB trips by Tuesday, Feb 6th.
- **Immersion Experience** - This is an immersion trip with elements of service and education. You will be exposed to the real-life conditions of people who live in different communities and their lived realities.
- **Service** - Some components of service may require physical activity such as lifting, cleaning, etc. If you have accessibility restrictions, please let SLCE know beforehand to try to see if modifications can be made.
- **Reflection** - There will be reflection sessions held every night where all students are expected to participate.
- **Housing** - To keep costs low, accommodations may include: staying with host families, sharing bunk beds or cabins, staying at a community center or church, or sharing a large open space with sleeping mats.
- **Meals** - Food will be provided for all participants outside of any stops on the way to their site and on the way home. Meals are either provided through our housing site, prepared by host families, or cooked by our students. Students are encouraged to participate in the local food culture as a central aspect of daily life. Oftentimes, meals are prepared by our host and participants are expected to make an effort to try items and honor the host's offer. When food preparation is the responsibility of our group, we strive to provide well-balanced meal options. If you have additional food concerns, you are welcome to bring food to supplement your diet. Please note that delivery services and/or grocery stores may be inaccessible to your location. If you have any dietary restrictions, SLCE will make every effort to make reasonable accommodations.
- **Cost** - SLCE will subsidize most of the trip; however, each participant has a cost (amount based on the trip, see below). If selected, a **NON-REFUNDABLE** deposit of 50% of the trip cost is **due by Friday, February 9, 2024, at 5pm**. Participants who do not submit the deposit by the deadline will no longer be eligible to participate in the ASB trip. The final 50% will be **due Friday, March 8, 2024, at 5pm**. (SLCE will coordinate with participants' fundraising options).
 - Hunger and Homelessness Trip to New Orleans, LA - **\$125**
 - Mode of transportation - 12-passenger van
 - Immigration Reform to Phoenix, AZ - **\$225**
 - Mode of transportation - airline flight

Application Deadline: January 26, 2024 at 11:59pm

ASB Application Overview:

Section 1: Personal Information

- Start by providing your essential details, ensuring accuracy for seamless coordination. Remember to include your contact information for timely updates.

Section 2: Trip Preference

- Express your interest in either the hunger/homelessness trip or the immigration/human rights trip. Both destinations promise unique challenges and opportunities to make a difference. Consider your passions and skill sets when making your selection.

Section 3: Motivation and Skills

- Share your motivation for joining ASB and how your skills align with the chosen trip. Whether you're an advocate for social justice or possess specific talents, articulate why you are the ideal candidate.

Section 4: Commitment and Availability

- Confirm your commitment by detailing your availability during the designated Alternative Spring Break period. We're seeking dedicated individuals ready to contribute their time and energy to create lasting impacts.

Seize this chance to be part of something greater than yourself. For any inquiries, connect with ASB Co-President Nick at nhart4@uic.edu. Embrace the opportunity to be a catalyst for change and make this Alternative Spring Break an unforgettable experience.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, January 26:	ASB Application Deadline (by 11:59pm)
Sunday, February 4:	ASB Selection – Group Process (2-4pm)
Tuesday, February 6:	SLCE will notify everyone who has been selected
Friday, February 9:	Security Deposit Due (varies by trip)
Friday, March 8:	Final Payment for ASB Trip Due (varies by trip)
Sunday, March 17 – Saturday, March 23:	Alternative Spring Break Trip

*** There will also be at least 2 mandatory pre-trip meetings with the trip group to go over logistics, fundraising, packing, and free-time planning.

