Service Learning - Welcome to the Foster Family Center for Engineering Service Learning

This Engineering Service Learning Program at UC Merced enables undergraduate students to earn academic credit by participating in multiyear, multidisciplinary teams that solve engineering and technology-based problems for the San Joaquin Valley's leading non-profit organizations.

UC Merced students get the opportunity to engineer real solutions to complex problems faced by real client organizations. Working in project teams, even first year students gain valuable experience in defining, designing, building, testing, deploying, and supporting systems to meet client needs—broadening their educational experience and enhancing their workplace readiness.

"Influenced by this program, our student retention is among the best in the nation and our students are better prepared to be engineering leaders."

Dean Jeff Wright
School of Engineering

Client organizations receive affordable engineering expertise at a time when budgets are tight and technical expertise is scarce or expensive. They utilize this expertise to improve existing services, launch new programs, and try new and innovative ideas.

Sponsors benefit from their interactions with talented students, advisors, and project teams, while aligning themselves and their organizations with the program's commitment to service.

The Foster Family Center for Engineering Service Learning is proud to be affiliated with the National Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) program, which is based at Purdue University. Service Learning students also work with other University of California campus' such as UC Berkeley (CITRIS), UC Davis (Radio), and UC San Diego (TIES) to enhance the quality of services to their clients and promote professional development by participating in other programs such as UC Day.