WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FAIR

The University of Iowa Student Engagement Fair is an event held by educational institutions, featuring over 300 organizations. It serves as a platform for students to explore a wide array of extracurricular opportunities beyond academics. Each organization sets up a booth to showcase their offerings, which encompass diverse interests such as academics, culture, sports, volunteering, and more. This event allows students to discover and connect with groups that align with their passions, fostering a sense of community and personal growth. Through networking and participation, students can broaden their horizons and forge meaningful relationships.

Venue

The fair is being held on Hubbard Park. Due to uneven terrain some participants may find it difficult to navigate. If you are concerned about navigating Hubbard Park, we encourage you to visit the Welcome Center, where a member of our team can assist you.

Environment

We expect to have over 330 organizations present at the fair and anticipate over 3,000 students to attend and participate. We anticipate the environment being loud and there to be crowds. The event will include a live radio broadcast provided by the University of Iowa student radio station KRUI. Additionally, Iowa Augusts can bring hot and muggy weather. We encourage participants to be prepared for the heat and sun. Water is available throughout the fair and in the Iowa Memorial Union.

Signage

There will be directional signs throughout Hubbard Park; including “Ask Me” Booths were a member of our volunteer team can assist you finding where you want to go. Student organizations will be divided into 7 different color categories. These sections will be marked by tall colored flags at the beginning of each designated section. A list of participating organizations in each section will be posted online.

Resource Booths

There are three locations where students can inquire about accommodations or support for their experience at the fair. On Hubbard Park there are two: First, our Main Information Tent which will be located near the entrance to the park on the east side along the fence. Second, our “Ask Me” booths which will be staffed by volunteers down the center of the main aisle. The third location is inside the Iowa Memorial Union at the Welcome Center located near the center of the building on the main floor. Representatives at each location will be ready to engage with students of different abilities and be aware of any resources to address specific needs that may arise during interactions.
Accommodations

The event organizers have worked to consider the diverse needs of students. We are providing seating areas for those who need to rest, having quiet spaces for students with sensory sensitivities, and areas where students can cool down in the case of warmer temperatures. The Danforth Chapel located on the west side of Hubbard Park will be open as a quiet rest space. Students can also use spaces in the Iowa Memorial Union – which will include the closest bathrooms for the event.

Staffing

The fair’s organizers and booth representatives are trained to be sensitive and accommodating to students. They may be aware of accessibility features, resources, and are willing to assist students as needed.

Transportation and Parking

There is a bus stop located at the corner of Madison and Jefferson for use. Additionally, the Iowa Memorial Union Parking Ramp will be open during the event. The hourly parking located in front of the Iowa Memorial Union will be closed the afternoon of the event.

Alternative Options

For students who are unable to attend the fair or whom the fair’s environment is not conducive there are other options! First, we encourage students to visit Engage, which serves as our platform for Registered Student Organizations. On this site you can search for organizations and reach out to their leadership. The Leadership and Engagement team also offer’s Engagement advising, which you can learn more about here. Schedule your Engagement Advising Appointment today!

Feedback

The organizers welcome participant feedback on the event’s accessibility. This helps identify areas for improvement in future events. Please email dsl-leadandserve@uiowa.edu or schedule a meeting with a member of the Leadership, Service, and Civic Engagement team [Grab your reader’s attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

to discuss your experience.