

Table 3a. Effects of Civic Engagement Programs on Educational Achievement and Cognitive Attainment*

YOUTH OUTCOMES	CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS WORK	CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS DON'T WORK	MIXED REVIEWS	"BEST BETS"
EDUCATION				
ACHIEVEMENT TESTS IN LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING (1 quasi-experimental study)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement in a program with a school-based curriculum on service learning may increase academic performance^{K12}
ACHIEVEMENT IN MATH (1 quasi-experimental study)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a service learning program had significantly better math grades than nonparticipants did^{LS}
ACADEMIC SKILLS (1 experimental study)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a community-based service learning program showed no difference in high school grades compared to youth in the control group, although academic skills increased significantly^{QOP} 	
SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT (1 experimental study; 2 quasi-experimental studies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a mentoring and community service learning program had higher rates of school attendance than youth in the control group^{AA} 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement in a program with a school-based service learning curriculum may increase engagement with school^{K12} Participants in a service learning program were significantly more engaged with school than nonparticipants^{LS}
SENSE OF EDUCATIONAL COMPETENCE (1 quasi-experimental study)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement in a program with a school-based service learning curriculum may increase educational competence^{K12}
HOMEWORK COMPLETION (1 quasi-experimental study)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement in a program with a school-based service learning curriculum may increase homework completion rates^{K12}

* Program symbols: AA Across Ages LS Learn and Serve America
 AP Appalachian Project PW Public Works Mapping Project
 CB Community-Based Planning Project QOP Quantum Opportunities Program
 K12 K-12 Service Learning in California TO Teen Outreach
 KV Kids Voting USA

YOUTH OUTCOMES	CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS WORK	CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS DON'T WORK	MIXED REVIEWS	"BEST BETS"
<p>EDUCATIONAL ASPIRATIONS (1 experimental study; 1 quasi-experimental study)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a community-based service learning program reported higher educational expectations than youth in the control group^{QOP} 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement in a program with a school-based service learning curriculum may increase educational aspirations^{K12}
<p>FAILURE IN SCHOOL (2 experimental studies)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a national volunteer service program were less likely to fail in school than youth in the control group^{TO} Participants in a community-based service learning program were less likely than youth in the control group to drop out and more likely to graduate from high school^{QOP} 			
<p>SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL (1 experimental study)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a national volunteer service program were less likely to get suspended from school than youth in the control group^{TO} 			
<p>ATTEND POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL (1 experimental study)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants in a community-based service learning program were more likely to be attending a 2- or 4-year secondary school 1 year after the end of the program^{QOP} 			