

How to ensure success for your Chapter in the first year

As a chapter leader, your leadership is integral to the success of the Chapter's events and programming, and the broader Net Impact Community. Partnering together, chapter leaders and advisors can increase the likelihood of success and increased impact on campus and in the community. Chapter leaders oversee and manage all of the Chapter's activities from building the leadership team, to securing funding from your school, to putting on events and programs. Here are 7 keys to ensure ongoing success for your Chapter:

1. Secure an advisor and build your leadership team [student chapters]

You will need to find a chapter advisor. The advisor's role is to provide strategic guidance, support, as well as provide access to networks and resources. The advisor should also assist the chapter in securing approval as an organization on campus. Once you have an advisor, be sure to stay in touch with them regularly; we recommend that they budget at least three hours a month to engage with you.

Chapters need at least 2 people on their leadership team, but the average is 6-8. Usually a Chapter's leadership team consists of members with complementary skills and a mix of years so newer members can develop leadership skills for coming years.

Some examples of leadership roles include: President, Vice President, VP Membership, VP Marketing & Communications, VP Programs, and VP Finance. Your VP of Finance can help you set a budget and keep track of Chapter spending and fundraising.

Strong and consistent Net Impact social media storytelling has the potential to dramatically grow, connect, and engage our community - it helps your chapter gain members and event attendees and raises the profile of the larger Net Impact community around the globe.

2. Set up your Chapter's profile page

If you have not already created your personal Net Impact account during your Chapter onboarding, you can do so at www.netimpact.org. Once the account is active, you can then edit your Chapter's profile, add events, and much more.

3. Plan your first event

Check out the [exclusive programs](#) offered from Net Impact Central and you can plan events and activities entirely unique to your Chapter. You can also plan events and projects using the ideas from these [toolkits](#). We encourage your Chapter to participate in at least one Net Impact Central Program during its first year.



4. Recruit new members and continue Chapter programs and events

Now that your Chapter is launched, keep recruiting new members. The more events you plan, and programs you participate in, the greater the likelihood that your membership will increase. Remember, Net Impact Central has several engaging programs you can participate in.

5. Attend the Net Impact Conference

The Net Impact Conference is the Net Impact Community's flagship event occurring each fall. With around 2,000 attendees, all Net Impact Chapter members have the opportunity to connect with like-minded peers, industry leaders and learn about societal, economic, and environmental issues.

Your Chapter advisor **can help secure funds for your Chapter to attend this life-changing event**. Year after year, the Net Impact Chapters who attend the Conference are seen building stronger Chapters with more active members; likewise, the networking opportunities and inspirational sessions with the world's most prestigious leaders can help you and your members plan a career of impact.

6. Connect and provide input

As a chapter leader, you are eligible to join Net Impact's webinars and other resources sharing opportunities. These resources prepare leaders with best practices for Chapter success. These opportunities are on the Chapter Leader Hub and sent out in regular newsletters.

7. Ensure thoughtful succession planning for your Chapter

Thoughtful succession planning is critical. We suggest your team compile a transition document to ensure seamless knowledge transfer from one leadership team to the next. We encourage all leaders and advisors to read our best practices for succession planning on the Hub.

Likewise, don't forget to complete your Chapter's requirements, such as paying annual dues (often funded by the school) and completing annual reporting. You can find more information about these requirements in the Chapter Leader Hub: <https://www.netimpact.org/chapter-hub-requirements>.

