

Alternative Break Citizenship schools (ABCs)

The definitive leadership experience for campuses focused on student-driven alternative break programs.

The ABCs of the ABCs

The Alternative Break Citizenship schools (ABCs) are week-long experiential training sessions that provide college student and staff leaders the knowledge, skills, and connections needed to start or strengthen a quality alternative break program.

The ABCs combine aspects of a national conference - through workshops, discussions, and planning sessions - with the education, reflection, and direct service of an alternative break. Throughout the week, participants engage in an experience focused on the best practices and details of organizing an alternative break.

The result – a dynamic experiential learning opportunity that encourages participants to synthesize knowledge and skills gained in workshops with inspiring and educational contact with local community leaders *and* students and staff from college campuses nationwide.



THE ABCs OFFER NEARLY THREE DECADES OF EXPERTISE IN TRAINING FOR THE DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION, AND INNOVATION OF QUALITY ALTERNATIVE BREAK PROGRAMS.

*If you have any questions about the Alternative Break Citizenship schools (ABCs), please contact us directly at **404.919.7482** or at [breakaway \[at\] alternativebreaks \[dot\] org](mailto:breakaway@alternativebreaks.org).*



immersion

Experience the intensity of a quality alternative break: think critically about your role in society, connect with other campus leaders and community members, and create positive social change through a life of active citizenship.

innovation

Facilitate the development of new ideas in service-learning and community impact. Build and adapt your program structure. Share successes in curriculum-based alternative breaks, weekend breaks, and international breaks.

interaction

Engage in strong direct service and reciprocal relationships between campus and community. The ABCs offer unparalleled opportunities to build strong and sustainable partnerships with community leaders from across the nation.

The Workshops

The ABCs are **living** training sessions. The interactive style enables Break Away facilitators to weave the experience and ideas of the student and staff attendees into the conference itself. The workshops that participants attend throughout the week focus on various aspects of developing a strong alternative break program, in addition to moving forward innovations within the national movement.

Some of the topics discussed are community impact, strategic planning, fundraising, active citizenship, social justice, group development, conflict resolution, leadership and facilitation skills, orientation, education, training, reflection, and reorientation. Break Away staff strive to tailor each ABCs experience to meet the specific needs of the students and staff in attendance.

Housing and Meals

Break Away provides all housing and meals during the ABCs. True to the set up of an alternative break, participants are required to stay with their groups in the accommodations and actively participate in all activities throughout the week. Given our packed schedule, there will not be opportunities for individual exploration or sightseeing during the conference. If you'd like to extend your stay to explore all Houston has to offer, you'll need to make your own arrangements.

Transportation

Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from the ABCs location. Airport shuttle service and on-site transportation during the week of the ABCs is included with the registration fee. **Prior to making travel arrangements, please visit the [2018 ABCs page](#) of our website for more information regarding start/end times for the ABCs.**

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Partial refunds, subject to a minimum \$100 cancellation fee, will be allowed for participants whose cancellation is received in writing at least one month in advance of the session they registered for. **No refunds will be given for cancellations made within three weeks of the session.**

PLEASE NOTE: Your registration and payment or proof of payment must be submitted in order to reserve your space. Early bird discounts will not be applied until these items are received. [Payment may be made online](#) or by check; all payment information can be sent to registration@alternativebreaks.org or mailed to Break Away - 122 N. Avondale Rd., Suite #280, Avondale Estates, GA 30002. Please note that your registration is not finalized until payment has been received.

We ask that [each participant complete their own registration form](#), regardless of who is making the payment. Knowing that programs are often in the process of transitioning leadership, you're welcome to reserve several spaces (with payment) on behalf of your program and have the individuals fill out the registration form at a later date.

Registration includes everything participants will need for the full week:

- **14 meals**
- **5 nights of housing**
- **transportation to and from the airport**
- **on-site transportation**
- **comprehensive training materials**

Participants from member institutions receive significant discounts on the registration fee. There is also an early bird deadline system through which all registrants can obtain discounts.

Deadline	Advantage	Associate	Non-Member
Early Bird	\$594	\$668	\$742
Final	\$654	\$736	\$817
Staff Track <u>only</u>	\$270	\$304	\$337

// (The ABCs are) an opportunity to exchange ideas with other schools and further your knowledge about social justice. An engaging time to critically look at your school's alternative break program.
- 2015 ABCs Participant

Get ready for the whirlwind of a lifetime; to grow in ways you could not even imagine, and then grow a little more than that.
- 2016 ABCs Participant

A fantastic growing and learning opportunity that challenged me in my personal beliefs & leadership styles in an alternative break setting as well as my personal life. A must do for alternative breakers!
- 2017 ABCs Participant