

Community Service Information and Procedures 2016-2017

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Junior and Senior community service requirement

Juniors and seniors are required to perform at least 15 hours of community service each year: 5 hours at school, 5 hours at your church, and 5 hours in your community or neighborhood, for a total of at least 30 hours, 10 in each area. Completion of these hours is

- Required for graduation
- Worth 10% of your Bible class grade

Students may begin counting their hours as soon as the previous school year is complete. Students who excel in community service hours (100 hours or more) will also be honored at graduation with a Presidential Award. (See below for details and requirements)

Completion dates

Hours must be completed and documented on the attached verification form as follows:

- Friday, Nov 4, 2016: any 5 hours
- Friday, Feb 3, 2017: any 10 hours
- Friday, Apr 7, 2017: all 15 hours

Definition of community service

- Must benefit the school, your church, or the community
- Must be unpaid
- Must be completed during your junior or senior years
- May be completed during student’s normal school day working for a school office or an NCCS teacher, but student must choose between community service credit and academic credit.
- Must be completed in addition to class requirements
- May be completed for anyone except family members, including parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins, in their home or their business.
- May be completed for any organization except political groups

Examples of community service

- Tutoring students
- Assisting with after-school programs
- Helping in an elementary classroom
- Mentoring a younger student
- Working a school concession stand
- Working at a food pantry
- Assisting the elderly
- Helping with a beautification program

- Volunteering at a hospital
- Organizing clothing collections
- Caroling at a hospital or nursing home
- Be creative! Think big! Follow your talents and passions!
- Volunteering at an animal shelter
- Doing audio or video work at your church
- Being in leadership at your church youth group
- Going on a missions trip

Procedure

- The easiest way to earn hours is through someone you already know: a teacher or administrator at school, your youth pastor or leader at church, or an existing community organization (food banks, humane society, the zoo, etc.) You may visit volunteermatch.com for ideas.
- If you want to step it up, think about the needs you have seen that you are especially passionate about. The more impressive way to get community service is to create your own project that shows leadership of others. Here are some examples:
 - Seniors mentoring 8th or 9th grade one day a week at lunch
 - Clean water/building a well in Africa, Compassion International
 - Feeding the homeless in St Louis
 - Sock project
- Document your hours *as you go*. Complete as much of the form as you can. Make sure the supervisor provides his or her signature and phone number. It is difficult to try to go back and document your service later.
- Write the total hours and the hours in each category at the bottom on the back page and make sure that your parent has signed the form.
- Use as many Verification Forms as you need. You can also download the form from the school website. Submit forms to Mrs. Pollard as you complete them. They will be filed and a summary of community service hours will be available on a periodic basis.

Excelling in Community Service

- There are additional opportunities for those who excel in community service. Some scholarships are offered to students who work to make a significant difference in their communities.
- The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. Students who earn these awards receive them and are honored at graduation.

Bronze Level, 100 hours

Silver Level, 175 hours

Gold Level, 250hours

