

Service Hour Policies

Handbook Statement

High School Student Service Hours • Students will be expected to complete a minimum of 80 hours of service over their four-year high school career. • A minimum of 50% of a student's service hours must be "Direct Service Hours" which are hours that serve the disadvantaged in our community or elsewhere. Examples would include mission trips, nursing home visits (nonfamily members), serving the homeless, supporting missional organizations such as UGM or a local foodbank, completing projects for a disabled/sick/elderly neighbor (non-relative), etc. • The remaining 50% of a student's service hours can be "Indirect Service Hours". Examples of this type of service would include volunteering within your church, serving at a youth camp, volunteering at NWCS events, volunteering at community events such as Bloomsday or Hoopfest, etc. • Students must log these hours on the MobileServe app that they can download to their phones or computers.

Further Explanation

As part of our vision to educate and disciple students to become leaders within the church, community, and world, all high school students are required to perform a total of 80 hours of community service to graduate. Hours are prorated for transfer students at the rate of 20 hours per year. Students are required to perform a minimum of 50% of the total required hours through direct service and the remaining 50% through indirect service.

Direct Service

Definition: Helping the disadvantaged and/or vulnerable people in our community or elsewhere. Direct service meets a basic human need like the need for food, shelter, clothing and safety. This can be done through any service performed to a group or organization that serves needy and/or vulnerable people or groups.

"...For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me..." Matthew 25:35-36

Example of what it is: "This day in Guatemala I was at an orphanage helping care and play with the children there. Then we served food out to children at the Kids Club and cleaned up."

Example of what it is not: "I babysat my neighbor's cat while she was at work."

Indirect Service

Definition: Helping in a way that benefits your church, school, community and beyond. Indirect Service is volunteer work in which you are not directly benefiting. This means you were not paid or gifted anything and the service is not a normal part of being on a team, club, in a class or part of being in a family or being a good friend.

"Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that.... But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Luke 6:31-36

Example of what it is: "Helped at Spokane Hoopfest Association- pick up trash and change trash bags in Riverfront Park with a crew of volunteers."

Example of what it is not: "I worked for my grandpa during the summer and he gave me a car."

Service Hour Policies

1. All service hour submissions are subject to NWCS administrator approval.
2. NWCS administration reserves the right to limit the amount of time allowable for service and correct service categories.
3. Service for which a student receives financial compensation will not be counted as service hours. The only exception is if the proceeds are being donated to a charity.
4. Service for the student's friends, family and/or family business will not count.
5. Service performed as the result of disciplinary action taken by the school or courts does not count toward the service hour requirement.
6. Service performed as an academic requirement will not count.
7. Managing or being on an athletic team, musical group or participating in the school play, etc. are considered school activities and do not count toward service hours.
8. For approved activities that meet an identified community need, rehearsal, travel time, eating, sleeping and recreation will not count toward service hours but only the time during the actual service activity.
9. Only service hours that can be validated by a supervisor will be approved.

Process for Approval

- Record service hours in the Mobile Serve App
- Include the name of the organization for which you volunteered
- Get supervisor signature at time of service or via email within 30 days from date of service
- Include a brief description of the activity performed
- Record the exact date or date range for the activity and the exact number of hours

