



# Accept the Challenge: What Counts?

## What type of volunteering counts toward your total hours?

Almost any type of group or individual volunteer work for a non-profit, educational or charitable organization. Here are some categories and information about how to report your hours:

### In-school volunteering

- Ambassador Program - Check with your advisors about many hours you can report as Community Service.
- Peer tutoring in the Academic Support Center (Tutoring every other day for a term = 16.5 hours. Students who did not tutor full time during a term should report an estimate of actual hours using the formula: days you tutored X .75 [45 minutes is 3/4 of an hour or .75]. See Academic Support Center Coordinator for help if you have any questions. From January - June 2014 there were 104 school days, so tutoring every other day would result in a maximum of 39 hours. From August – December 2014 there are 74 school days, so tutoring every other day would result in a maximum of 28 hours.)
- Peer counseling – only hours spent with an assigned student counts
- Peer leadership – time spent doing presentations in other schools
- Peer mentoring/classroom assistants (One period per day January – June 2014 = 78 hours; one period per day August – December 2014 = 56 hours plus hours for training and meetings)
- Child Development Program (volunteering in preschools) - (One period per day January – June 2014 = 78 hours; one period per day September – December 2014 = 56 hours)
- Volunteering in a school office, library or school store – report actual number of hours worked whether for regular volunteering or one-time projects
- Volunteering for one-time special events (for example: Project Wellness, Back to School Night)
- Volunteer work in conjunction with a club, class or team

### Volunteering through an agency or other organization

- Regular volunteering for agencies outside of school (examples: hospital, library, museums, other non-profit organizations)
- Volunteer activities with the elderly if done through a non-profit organization (Council on Aging, nursing home, etc.)
- Volunteer activities with children if done through a non-profit organization. This includes volunteer coaching (youth soccer, lacrosse, etc.) and helping with children's activities at schools, etc.
- Unpaid camp counseling – student can report actual hours worked up to 8 hours per day, 40 hours per week maximum. Hours not spent in working with children do not count. This includes working as a counselor in training (CIT).
- Volunteer projects done in conjunction with out of school non-profit organizations (Scouts, Rotary or Lions Club, United Way).
- Church-sponsored volunteering counts if you participate in projects to benefit the community (local, national, international) or in unpaid childcare or teaching. Worship service participation or leadership does not count. For mission trips, students should report actual number of hours worked up to 8 hours a day and up to 40 hours per week.
- Hours for participation in charity fundraisers are reportable to a limited extent. Involvement must include an element of awareness-raising in addition to fundraising. Participation in walks or other events without these elements does not count. In general students can report actual hours of participation in walks or other events up to 6 hours per event (example: Relay for Life, Walk for Hunger). Students working as team captains or event organizers may submit additional hours (example: Relay for Life captains can submit up to 20 hours to reflect activities beyond the event). Please consult the Community Service Coordinator with questions about fundraising.
- Preparation time for a specific community service event may be able to be counted.

## What activities do not count toward your total hours?

- Paid work
- Fundraising activities without an awareness component
- Court mandated community service
- Volunteering for family, neighbors, friends, etc – examples: babysitting, yard work. These are great things to do, but since they are not done through a non-profit organization, they do not count for award purposes.

**Please see the Community Service Coordinator in the Counseling Center  
if you have questions regarding what community service hours should be reported.**