



Seminole County Public Schools Community Service Program

What is the purpose of Community Service? * To encourage students to develop a sense of responsibility for others within their community.
* To help students foster an understanding of the value of volunteerism and the rewards of helping others.

What are the benefits of Community Service? * At the conclusion of the 75 hours of community service students will receive .5 credit * Universities value student volunteerism * To qualify for The Florida Academic Scholarship (100% of tuition and fees) through Bright Futures Scholarship program a student is required to complete 75 hours of community service.

What are the guidelines for Community Service? * All guidelines are based upon state and SCPS directives, they are not school-based.

- The Community Service Application must be approved and on file PRIOR to a student volunteering. Hours are not retroactive.
- Only approved SCPS community service sites will be accepted.
- All 75 hours must be completed within one calendar year.
- The 75 hours may be completed at either one or two approved agencies. Note: If a student chooses two approved sites, a minimum of 25 hours must be served at one of the sites and the remaining 50 hours at the second approved site.
- If a student wishes to complete community service at their own high school a maximum of 25 hours will be accepted. Note: hours must be earned beyond the school day and the club/organization must be listed on the community service application.
- Community service hours beyond the 75 will not be approved for additional credit. These hours may be used for college applications or resumes.
- *Community service hours will not be accepted for any of the following circumstances:* * service for which a student receives compensation * court-directed community service * service that is a prerequisite for employment * fundraising for a school sponsored activity * attendance at religious services, retreats, self-improvement courses, conferences or workshops * service to one's own family * unsupervised service * volunteering to promote a particular religious political point of view or person

What are the procedures for completing Community Service? READ & FOLLOW CAREFULLY!!!

This application must be completed IN FULL AND ON FILE IN GUIDANCE BEFORE a student begins volunteering

- 1) Review the SCPS approved list of community service sites. No unapproved sites will be accepted. A copy of the approved list is available in the Guidance Office, First Class, Blackboard and the Crooms website.
- 2) Student and parent must complete and sign the application.
- 3) Contact an approved community service site and have the site supervisor complete the information in the box at the bottom of this application.
- 4) **Take the completed community service application to your guidance counselor for final approval.**
- 5) A copy of the community service application will be retained in guidance.
- 6) Begin volunteering. Remember, you have ONE calendar year to complete all 75 hours. The calendar year begins day #1 of volunteering.
- 7) It is the students' responsibility to keep track of their volunteer hours on the Community Service Log.
- 8) At the conclusion of the 75 hours the student must submit the original Community Service Application, the Community Service Log and a 2-3 page double-spaced, reflective essay that includes why you chose that specific site, what duties you performed and what you gained personally from the experience. If a student volunteered at two sites, one essay may address the experiences from both sites.

Student's Pledge while volunteering: * Demonstrate an interest in the experience * Cooperate with all persons involved * Adhere to all rules and regulations of the site * Act in an ethical manner at all times * Attend training as required * Inform the supervisor in the event of an illness or an emergency * Be punctual * Maintain an accurate list of all hours volunteered

SCPS COMMUNITY SERVICE STUDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Student Name _____ Grade _____ School Year _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ Phone _____ High School _____

I agree to comply with the SCPS guidelines and the Student's Pledge while completing community service:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

The Community Service Site Supervisor must complete the following information before volunteering begins:

Name of approved SCPS Community Service Site: _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Indicate the number of hours per week the student is scheduled to volunteer: _____ Days scheduled _____

Please describe the duties the student will perform: _____

Name of the Contact Person agreeing to supervise student: (Please Print) _____

Signature of Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Guidance Counselor Approval: _____ High School _____ Date _____