



Seminole County Public Schools, Florida
Community Service Program
Guidelines and Application

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 75 hours of community service, students will receive a maximum .5 credit. Universities value student's volunteerism. All levels of the Bright Futures Scholarships require community service.

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

- This completed Community Service Application must be approved and on file prior to volunteering. Hours are not retroactive.
- Only approved SCPS community service sites will be accepted.
- All award level required (FAS, FMS, GSV) hours must be completed within two calendar years.
- The award level required 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 award level required 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 will not be accepted for any of the following circumstances:
 1. Service for which a student receives compensation
 2. Court-directed community service
 3. Service that is a prerequisite for employment
 4. Fundraising for a school sponsored activity
 5. Attendance at religious services, retreats, self-improvement courses, conferences or workshops
 6. Service to one's own family
 7. Unsupervised service
 8. Volunteering to promote a particular religious political point of view or person

2011-12 High School Graduates and Beyond

NEW - July 1, 2011 - Increase in community service award level requirement for all three Bright Futures award levels. Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholars (FAS), Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS), and Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) during the 2011-12 academic year, and thereafter, must complete:

FAS = 100 Hours FMS = 75 Hours GSV = 30 Hours

Students who previously completed the 75-hour Florida Academic Scholars community service requirement will be granted one additional calendar year and the option to use a third approved agency to satisfy the increased requirement.

What are the procedures for completing Community Service?

1. Review the SCPS approved list of community service sites. A copy of the approved list is available in the Guidance Office at the High School.
2. Contact an approved community service site and speak with the site supervisor.
3. Complete the community service application below. Remember to include the student, parent and the supervising agency signatures.
4. Take the completed community service application to your school counselor for final approval.
5. A copy of the community service application will be retained in Guidance.
6. Begin volunteering. Remember, you have two calendar years to complete all award level required hours. The calendar year begins day of counselor's signature.
7. It is the students' responsibility to keep track of their volunteer hours on the Community Service Log.
8. At the conclusion of the award level required 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 the 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.



SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FLORIDA
SCPS COMMUNITY SERVICE STUDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Student Name _____ Grade _____ School Year _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone # _____ High School _____

Mailing Address _____

I agree to comply with the SCPS guidelines while completing community service:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Approved SCPS Community Services Site: _____

Mailing 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 Contact Person agreeing to supervise student: (Please Print): _____

Signature of Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Upon completion of 75 community service hours, you will receive .5 credit.

School Counselor Approval: _____ High School: _____ Date: _____

(Original copy of this form to be retained in Guidance Office)

Circle Award Level Hours completed : **FAS = 100 Hours** **FMS = 75 Hours** **GSV = 30 Hours**

Date Completed: _____ Counselor Signature: _____

Revised: July 20, 2011