

Community Service Guidelines Seminole County Schools

Purpose

- Create effective and meaningful civic participation programs that are designed to develop in students a commitment to service and a sense of personal responsibility for the welfare of their community.
- Increase awareness of needs of the community.
- Identify ways to solve community problems.
- Foster an understanding of the value of volunteerism and the rewards of helping others.

Structure

The program will be administered through every high school in Seminole County. A list of approved agencies/organizations will be made available to each interested student. The program is open to all students and they are encouraged to participate. Students will receive a maximum of one-half elective credit for satisfactorily completing the program.

Florida Academic Scholars Award

Effective with the Senior Class of 2001, all candidates for the Florida Academic Scholars Award must fulfill a 75-hour community service requirement. The community service involvement program is to be used to identify social problems or concerns that interest the student and to develop a plan for his/her personal involvement in addressing these areas. The state of Florida currently provides qualified students up to \$2500 for each of four years at a Florida college or university. Specific information can be obtained from high school counselors.

Procedures

The student will:

1. Identify a social problem in the community.
2. determine how to solve the problem.
3. contact an approved agency.
4. submit a completed student application to school counselor or designee ***prior*** to service.
5. maintain contact with school counselor and/or designee.
6. perform services and maintain a daily time log.
7. maintain regular contact with appropriate school personnel.
8. prepare a reflective paper and/or report on the volunteer experience and submit with daily time log to school counselor and/or designee.

Student Volunteer Guidelines

1. All registered high school students are eligible to participate in the program.
2. A maximum of 25 community service hours may be completed in approved ***school*** service. The criteria for these 25 hours are: (a) hours must be earned outside of school time in an approved community service area; (b) academic or elective credit cannot be given for the same time; (c) club/organization must submit for approval a Community Service Application.
3. At least 50 of the 75 hours must be completed in an agency that has ***previously*** been approved by the School District outside of the student's own school setting. A maximum of two agencies/organizations can be utilized to satisfy the 75-hour requirement.
4. All 75 required hours can be completed in an outside agency.
5. All volunteer work must be done in the student's local community (Central Florida area).
6. All volunteer services must comply with Seminole County School Board Policy.
7. Before service for credit can begin, a Student Volunteer Service Application and Approval Form must be on file in the school.
8. Changes in the service experience must be approved in ***advance*** by the school counselor/or designee.
9. Hours properly recorded on an official Student Volunteer Service Log will be credited toward the 5 hour requirement in minimum 30 minute increments.
10. Transportation and the community service scheduling are the responsibilities of the student.
11. Volunteer service must be completed within one calendar year.
12. Credit ***cannot*** be earned for the following:
 - a. service for which a students received compensation.
 - b. Court-directed community service.
 - c. Service that is prerequisite for employment.
 - d. Attendance at religious services, retreats, self-improvement courses, conferences, and workshops.
 - e. Service to one's own family or unsupervised service.
 - f. Fundraising for a school-sponsored activity.
 - g. Volunteer work done to promote a particular religious or political point of view or person.



Seminole County Public Schools
Student Community Service Program
Student Volunteer Application

To be completed by the student volunteer. (Please type or print.)

Name _____ **Student Number** _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ **Date of Birth** _____

School _____ **Grade Level** _____

Student Pledge:

1. Provide quality school community service.
2. Demonstrate an interest in the experience and cooperate with all persons involved in training.
3. Adhere to all rules and regulations of the school and act in an ethical manner at all times.
4. Attend training as provided and/or required.
5. Inform the supervisor in the event of illness or emergency that prevents attendance.
6. Develop the knowledge and skills necessary to provide effective school community service.
7. Be punctual and in attendance at all specified activities.
8. Maintain an accurate Student Volunteer Service Log.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

Name of Organization _____

Days and hours scheduled to volunteer _____

Brief description of volunteer's job _____

Contact Person Name (Please type or print.) _____ **Phone** _____

Organization Rep. Signature _____

Approval of School Counselor _____ **High School** _____

Maintain original with school counselor.

