

## Hours That Count

- United Way agencies
- Nonprofit agencies
- Special Olympics
- School Volunteer programs
- Chambers of Commerce
- Political action
- Nursing homes, hospitals, non profit clinics
- Museums
- Libraries
- Service club activities that provide a benefit to the community
- Teen Trendsetter Reading Mentors

## Hours that require approval

- Elderly and disabled persons
- Service work that helps churches provide a benefit to the community
- Symphony and community theatre

## Hours That Do Not Count

- Regular practice time and meeting times for extra-curricular activities and clubs
- Saturday School or any detention/work detail.
- Court ordered community service.
- **Time served in the Executive Leadership Program and Exploratory Teaching Program**
- Church related activity related to worship and evangelization
- Service performed for pay
- Service related to armed services recruitment requirements
- Babysitting
- Veterinarians and physicians office
- School music or dramatic production where credit is earned.
- For profit organization.

2008-2009

# Community Service Program for High School Students

*Encouraging and providing opportunities for high school students to serve their non-profit agencies in their communities.*



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# Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program Academic Scholar Award

**Contact: Kay Noble 863.534.0027**

Requires 75 hours between grades 9-12.

- Students complete a community service plan which identifies a social problem, the plan for personal involvement, and a final evaluation of the experience.

## High School Credit Program

**Contact: David Lewis 863.534.0624**

- Students in grades 9-12 will receive one-half credit in an elective community service course or social studies course for each **75 hours** served.
- Credit may not exceed 1 total credit.
- Students complete a community service plan which identifies a social problem, the plan for personal involvement, and a final evaluation of the experience.

## Awards for Documented Service

**Contact: Margaret Anne Wheeler  
863.534.0636**

### Annual Awards

#### Certificate

Awarded annually to recognize students with 10-49 hours.

#### Certificate with embossed seal

Awarded annually to recognize student for service beyond 50 hours.

#### Silver Pin

One time award when students serve 100 or more hours.

### Graduation Awards

#### Medallion and Silver Cord

Awarded in the senior year to wear at graduation for students accumulating 250 hours or more during grades 9-12.

#### Exceeding Expectations Medal

Awarded to students accumulating 1000 hours or more during grades 9-12.

# Procedures and Guidelines

## Registration

- Before serving hours, students enroll by completing the Student Application and Parent Approval Form and submitting it to the High School Community Service Coordinator.
- Guidance counselors will direct students seeking credit or participating in the *Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program* for the *Academic Scholars' Award Program*.
- Application must be made before March 1 of the students' senior year.
- Student forms are available at: [www.polk-fl.net/students/collegeandcareer/communityservice.html](http://www.polk-fl.net/students/collegeandcareer/communityservice.html)
- School coordinators have authority to verify or deny hours served.
- Code of Conduct and School Board rules apply while the student is performing community service hours.
- The principal of the school has the authority to dismiss a student from the Community Service Program.

## Serving your hours

- Students may serve hours during the summer preceding the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year if a student has registered and completed required forms.
- Service hours earned during regular school hours require prior approval from the community service coordinator.
- Family members may not sign off on hours served.
- Service to individuals must be conducted through, and be verified by an eligible agency.

## Agencies

- Agencies register on [www.sweatmonkey.com](http://www.sweatmonkey.com). Students download registration and submit to the high school Community Service Coordinator.
- Agency Staff sign off on the completed Record of Volunteer Service Hours Form.