

Guidelines for Community Service Hours:

1. Service may be volunteered to the school and/or the community.
2. Students must perform volunteer services on their own time, which can include lunch break. Study hall time may be included for peer counseling activities or service to the school. Participation in performances, festivals, or competitions during the school day may count if this meets the criteria under #4 and participating students are given permission by the principal to be absent from class.
3. Participation in performances, festivals or competitions counts if the following apply:
 - * Volunteer service meets an identified community service need.
 - * There is no admission charge accepted for the performance.
 - * Student participation is of voluntary nature.
 - * The performance does not promote the sponsoring organization.
 - * Neither the student organization nor the sponsoring organization receives payment for the performance. If participation meets the above criteria, then partial rehearsal time may be counted. Performing hours may be matched with the same number of rehearsal hours. For example, a chorus member performs 1 hour at a nursing home and is given 2 hours of credit (1 hour for the performance and 1 hour for rehearsal).
4. Students may not be paid for service rendered.
5. Volunteer service involving academic requirements for a class will count.
6. Service rendered as a prerequisite for employment will not count.
7. Attendance at self-improvement workshops or conferences will not count as service.
8. Fundraising for non-profit organizations or charities will count.
9. Service may not be performed for a student's family or for a profit-making organization, except for institutions like hospitals or the humane society.
10. Service performed as a result of disciplinary action taken by the school or courts cannot count.
11. Volunteer work for the purpose of promoting a particular religious or political point of view or person cannot count as volunteer hours. For example, if your church youth group helps with the Special Olympics, those hours would count, but not time spent distributing flyers advertising a church revival.
12. Participation in Varsity or Junior Varsity Athletics and regularly scheduled band and chorus performances does not constitute volunteer service under this program.
13. The above criteria will not cover all circumstances. If a question exists regarding the acceptance of an activity for volunteer service, please check with the Student Life office.
14. Canned food items will not be allowed for community service hours.

Purpose:

- To broaden the student's learning experience through service activities that provide exposure to and engagement with the real needs of our community and our world.
- To involve the student in activities that raise "ministry awareness" with the hope of nurturing a greater desire to serve in ways like that of Jesus Christ.
- To provide opportunities for students interested in meeting the required number of community service hours for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship awards.

Awards:

- At the end of the school year, a student will receive a bronze certificate (10-49 hours earned), a silver certificate (50-99 hours earned) or a gold certificate (more 100 hours earned).
- All seniors who earn 250 hours (during their high school years) will wear a white honor cord at graduation.
- The student with the highest total hours will receive a trophy.

Procedure: Students will obtain forms from the High School Office or online at www.tka.net. The adult in charge needs to sign the form. The student will then return it to the High School Office. A record of the student's community service hours can be found on Renweb.

Deadline: To qualify for the year-end awards, all forms must be turned in by April 18th. Hours turned in after 18th will go into the total for the next school year. Community service hours will begin to count in the summer between grades 8 and 9. We will use the date for these summer hours as any earned after June 1 of the eighth grade.