

Westside Christian School

Community Service Record

PRINT NEATLY ! Forms that cannot be read will not be accepted for credit.

Student Name _____ Circle Current Grade 9th 10th 11th 12th

Information on the place of service:

Name of organization _____ City _____

Population served (Circle all that apply) Preschool Elementary MS/HS Adults Senior Adults

Describe the project or program

Dates of Service	Type of Volunteer Activity	Hours worked

I confirm that I have performed the above Community Service Hours which will be counted toward 80 hours minimum requirement that must be completed prior to graduation or 75 hours as per Bright Future's requirements.

Student Signature Date

I confirm that this student has performed the above hours of volunteer community service.

Student's work was (Circle answer): Substandard Adequate Good Excellent

Agency/Organization Representative Date

For WCS Administrative Office Use Only		
Date Received	Approved by:	Logged to Bright Futures by:

Requirements for Community Service Hours

All students at Westside Christian High School are required to complete a minimum of 75 hours of Community Service prior to graduation. Hours completed must be recorded on a WCS form, signed, dated and turned into the school office. Seniors must turn in documentation of ALL 75 hours by March 1 in year of graduation. Any Senior who fails to perform the required amount of Community Service hours or who fails to submit acceptable documentation may still receive a diploma but will not be allowed to participate in the graduation exercises.

Why are high school students required to do community service hours?

The motto of WCS is *Seeking to Learn, Learning to Serve*. This is consistent with the call of all Christian believers to be servants. In Matthew 25: 34-40 Jesus tells us that to feed the hungry, visit the sick, minister in prisons or give clothes to the needy is acceptable service for which He will say, "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers, you did for me." WCS is committed to SERVICE LEARNING, that is, to serve each other and those outside our campus with a cheerful heart and willing spirit.

Other reasons include:

Colleges, vocational schools and employers are favorably impressed by a student's record of service within the community.
Bright Futures Academic Scholarships require 75 hours community service.
Learning about the needs of others and doing something to help those in need reduces selfishness, develops leadership skills and teaches practical problem solving.

What is not counted for community service hours

Based on rules for Bright Futures eligibility, these activities may NOT be counted toward community service hours:

1. Court mandated community service
2. Work done during school hours, even to help a teacher
3. Work at a "for profit" organization
4. Any type of work "for which a student is personally compensated (paid) either financially or with some other material benefit (gift).
5. "Simple, tedious, repetitive work like returning library books to shelves."
6. Any work or chores for your family.
7. "Religious devotion or any activity interpreted primarily as proselytizing"
8. Any activity where there is no leader or adult supervisor on site to evaluate student performance
9. Coaching unless involved with Special Olympics, PARC or UPARC.
10. Working as a teacher assistant in class or assisting other students in non-academic classes, clubs or groups.

ALSO not counted for community service are:

Regular attendance at church, youth group, Bible study or Sunday School.
 Youth group rallies such as Acquire the Fire.
 Teaching Sunday School or Vacation Bible School
 Ministry outreach or Church Nursery volunteer
 Church clean-up or lawn care.
 Audio-visual technician during church or school religious functions
 Helping an elderly neighbor or family friend to paint, clean or move. This is a ministry opportunity, but it is NOT community service, even without pay.

Ministry related work that would be acceptable is:

- Labor or non-religious teaching that is part of a mission trip. For example, as part of a missions trip to Mexico, a student may count hours spent working on construction tasks for building the mission school or tutoring children in English but may NOT count hours spent conducting Bible training, street evangelism, worship team musician/singer or chapel.
- Camp Counselor at a church camp may only count hours spent working with children in recreation, sports or crafts activities and not count devotions, chapel, sleeping, eating or preparing for the day and only if the Counselor is not paid.

***** If you have a question about whether the project you choose is suitable, present your request in writing to WCS Administrative Office before participating. Failure to clear suitability of a project that does not qualify under these standards means NO HOURS COUNTED.***

What projects are suitable for community service hours?

Volunteer opportunities are plentiful in our area. Through volunteer service, students gain real life experience in the type of work that might develop into a career interest or college major. Some examples are given. These are not the only projects you can serve. If you have a question about whether the project you choose is suitable, present your request in writing to the WCS Administrative Office before participating in the project.

Community Service at Your Church		
Mission Trips	Vacation Bible School worker	Children's Church worker
Tutoring	Church Clean Up Days	Ministry Outreach
Preschool Aide	Camp Counselor	Audio/Visual Technician

...more information on back of this page

What else can I do for community service hours?

Look in the local newspaper for information on volunteer opportunities. Telephone any agency of interest. Ask to speak with the Volunteer Coordinator. Explain that you are a student at Westside Christian School and you are interest in volunteering for community service hours. Then ask what type of volunteer work is available. Age minimums apply for some agencies.

Here are some possibilities. Many more exist in the community

American Red Cross St Pete 898-3111	Bayfront Medical St Pete 893-6114	Christmas Toy Shop St Pete 898-3962
Clearwater Library 462-6800	Hospice of Suncoast Largo 586-4432	Morton Plant Mease Hospital 461-8115
Largo Library 587-6715	Girls Inc (Girls Club) 544-6230	Clearwater Free Clinic 447-3041
Alzheimer's Assn. 578-2558	Habitat for Humanity 894-1522	Talking Book Library Largo 538-9567
St Pete Free Clinic 327-0333	Religious Community Services 584-3528	R'Club (children) 578-5437
Indian Rocks Beach Library 596-1822	Countryside Library 669-1290	Salvation Army St Pete 821-9123
Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary 391-6211	Neighborly Senior Services 573-9444	St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen 441-3790

What is expected of me as a volunteer?

The organization you serve will explain your duties and some provide training. For any type of volunteer work, you must be;

- * on time, don't arrive late and don't leave early without permission,
- * dressed appropriately (the organization's definition, not yours),
- * willing to do the job,
- * polite and show the love of Jesus in all you do.

Some things you must not do;

- * gossip, complain, whine or show disrespect,
- * change the method of doing the work without approval from your supervisor,
- * use or take office supplies or other items without permission,
- * talk on the phone for personal reasons or discuss your personal problems while working.