

COMMUNITY SERVICE is defined as identifying a social issue in the community. This requires students to look beyond themselves and reach out to an issue faced by our society today (i.e. poverty, abuse, elder rights).
VOLUNTEER SERVICE is defined as assisting where needed and does not necessarily address a social issue. Although these hours are not recorded on the transcript, students can keep a log of these activities for use when applying for college, job applications, awards and scholarships other than the Bright Futures.

1. To be eligible to receive the Florida Academic Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of one hundred (100) hours of community service."
2. To be eligible to receive the Florida Medallion Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of seventy-five (75) hours of community service."
3. To be eligible to receive the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award a student must complete a program of community service work that includes a "minimum of thirty (30) hours of community service".
4. The student will identify a social problem that interests him/her, develop a plan of personal involvement in addressing the problem and evaluate and reflect upon the experience.
5. The service may be performed at more than one (1) agency and address more than one (1) social problem, however, each agency should be approved by the high school's community service designee prior to the beginning of the experience.
6. The student must be a high school student enrolled in grades 9-12.
7. If a student transfers to a Pinellas County high school from a Florida public or private high school, the community services hours earned will be honored if the previous school verifies the hours. Students in a Florida homeschool will have their hours honored if they provided documentation on agency letterhead of the number of hours earned and dates of service completed.

The following steps are the process for documenting the community service experience. A list of possible community service experiences are listed on the reverse side of this form. This list should not be considered all inclusive.

1. Meet with the community service designee at the student's high school to review policies and procedures on the Student Community Service Information Sheet (PCS 2-2602-1).
2. Contact the community agency for an interview to discuss the social problem and a plan of action to address it.
3. Complete the Community Services Proposal Form online at Counselor Connect after developing detailed identification of the social problem and plan of action. The Community Services Proposal Form is available in paper format upon request. (PCS 2-2602-2)
4. Submit the Community Services Proposal form electronically for approval by the community service designee at the high school. If completing a paper form, submit the completed form (PCS Form 2-2602-2) to the community service designee at the high school for approval.
5. Log community service hours on form #2 (PCS form 2-2602-3). The agency contact person must sign this documentation.
6. Summarize, evaluate, and reflect upon the community service work experience and the persons in the community that the student interacted with during this service work. Submit this information to the high school community service designee by completing the reverse side of the community service form #2 (PCS form 2-2602-3).
7. The completed paper forms shall be placed in the student's official cumulative file at the high school.

WHAT HOURS CANNOT BE COUNTED?

1. Court mandated community service.
2. An activity for which a student benefited financially or materially for the community service work.
3. All forms of duty within the family. The student's family to include; parents (including step), siblings (including step), any of their grandchildren (including step) and any of their spouses, aunts,uncles,cousins, nieces and nephews.
4. Religious devotion or any activity which can be interpreted primarily as proselytizing.
5. An activity where there is no leader or responsible adult on site to evaluate and confirm student performance (i.e., fostering an animal in your home).
6. An activity that promotes a political candidate or party.
7. Donations, such as Locks of Love or giving blood.

If a proposed plan is not approved by a high school's community service designee, the student may appeal the denial to the Bright Futures Community Service Appeals Committee, which will render a final decision on the student's plan. The committee will be appointed by the District Guidance office who will develop procedures for the committee. Decisions of the committee (without personal identifiable information about an individual student) will be distributed to all high schools.

A list of agencies offering community services can be found online at pcsb.org>Departments>Financial Aid> Bright Futures Community Service Component and Requirements for Pinellas Students Bright Futures.



PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS
STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT PROPOSAL
 Form 1 of 2



Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

District Student Number _____ Graduation Year: _____

High School: _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE is defined as identifying a social issue in the community. This requires students to look beyond themselves and reach out to an issue faced by our society today (i.e. poverty, abuse, elderly rights). These hours will meet the requirement for the Bright Futures scholarships.
 VOLUNTEER SERVICE is defined as assisting where needed and does not necessarily address a social issue. Although these hours are not recorded on the transcript, students can keep a log of these activities for use when applying for college, job applications, awards and scholarships other than the Bright Futures.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Is this community service court-mandated? Yes No
2. Is this an activity that will benefit you financially or materially? Yes No
3. Is this an activity within your family? Yes No
4. Is this activity a form of religious devotion or an activity that can be seen as primarily proselytizing? Yes No
5. Is this an activity with no responsible leader on site to evaluate and confirm student performance (i.e., fostering an animal in your home)? Yes No
6. Does this activity promote a political candidate or party? Yes No
7. Is this activity a donation (i.e., Locks of Love, giving blood)? Yes No

If you answered yes to any of these questions, this activity cannot be approved because it is against district policy.

The social issue I will address is (i.e., poverty, animal overpopulation, obesity) _____

How will you address this issue? _____

Name of Agency: _____

Name of Contact at Agency: _____ Phone Number of Agency: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

CHECK LIST:

1. The Student Community Service Project form should be completed and approved by the High School Community Service Designee PRIOR to starting community service hours.

2. High School Community Service Designee contacted and project approved: Yes No

Signature: _____
 High School Community Service Designee Date _____

3. High School Community Service Designee - please place the original in the student's cumulative folder.



PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS
STUDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
EVALUATION/REFLECTION FORM
Form 2 of 2



How will this service experience affect your future decisions/plans?

Through this experience, what have you learned about yourself?

Describe how you think your experience made a positive impact on your community.

Do you plan to continue service to your community? Why/Why not?
