



Seminole County Public Schools, Florida Community Service Program Guidelines and Application

What is the purpose of Community Service? To encourage students to develop a sense of responsibility for others within their community. To help students foster an understanding of the value of volunteerism and the rewards of helping others.

What are the benefits of Community Service? At the conclusion of 75 hours of community service, students will receive a maximum .5 credit. Universities value student's volunteerism. All levels of the Bright Futures Scholarships require community service.

What are the guidelines for Community Service? All guidelines are based upon state and SCPS directives; they are not school-based.

- It is highly recommended that this completed Community Service Application be submitted and signed by your counselor prior to volunteering. This is the only way to guarantee that your service hours will be accepted.
- Only approved SCPS community service sites will be accepted.
- Students have until May 1 of their graduation year to complete their required hours.
- The community service may be completed at up to four approved agencies. Note: If a student chooses four approved sites, a minimum of 25 hours must be served at each site. The student may choose to consider all Seminole County Public School departments and schools as one agency.
- Students may complete a maximum 30 hours community service at their own high school. Note: Hours must be earned beyond the school day.
- Community service hours will not be accepted for any of the following circumstances:
 1. Service for which a student receives compensation
 2. Court-directed community service
 3. Service that is a prerequisite for employment
 4. Fundraising for a school sponsored activity
 5. Attendance at religious services, retreats, self-improvement courses, conferences or workshops
 6. Service to one's own family
 7. Unsupervised service
 8. Volunteering to promote a particular religious political point of view or person

2011-12 High School Graduates and Beyond

NEW - July 1, 2011 - Increase in community service award level requirement for all three Bright Futures award levels. Bright Futures Florida Academic Scholars (FAS), Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS), and Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) during the 2011-12 academic year, and thereafter, must complete:

FAS = 100 Hours

FMS = 75 Hours

GSV = 30 Hours

What are the procedures for completing Community Service?

1. **Review the SCPS approved list of community service sites.** A copy of the approved list is available on the SCPS website (Students tab, Student Information drop down box).
2. Contact an approved community service site and speak with the site supervisor.
3. Complete the community service application below. Remember to include the student, parent and the supervising agency signatures.
4. It is recommended that your counselor sign the completed community service application prior to volunteering.
5. It is solely the student's responsibility to maintain copies of all documents, including the signed community service application.
6. Begin volunteering.
7. It is the students' responsibility to keep track of their volunteer hours on the Community Service Log.
8. At the conclusion of the award level required hours, the student must submit the original Community Service Application, the Community Service Log, and a one page single-spaced, reflective essay that includes why you chose the specific site(s), what duties you performed and what you gained personally from the experience. One essay may address the experiences at multiple sites.



SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FLORIDA
SCPS COMMUNITY SERVICE STUDENT VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Graduation Year _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone # _____ High School _____

Mailing Address _____

I agree to comply with the SCPS guidelines while completing community service:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Approved SCPS Community Services Site: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please describe the duties the student will perform: _____

Name of Contact Person agreeing to supervise student: (Please Print): _____

Signature of Contact Person: _____ Date: _____

Upon completion of 75 community service hours, you will receive .5 credit.

School Counselor Approval: _____ High School: _____ Date: _____

Circle Award Level Hours completed : **FAS = 100 Hours** **FMS = 75 Hours** **GSV = 30 Hours**

Date Completed: _____ Counselor Signature: _____