

Salinas Union High School District

COMMUNITY SERVICE/SERVICE LEARNING

1. Purpose

- a. The purpose of the Student Community Service Requirement is to provide students with the experience of being responsibly engaged in community activities, connecting classroom learning to real world experiences, develop confidence and self-esteem by helping others, open new learning experiences in the community, learn, understand, and empower students' decision-making skills to enhance the life of their community. The program provides a closer interrelationship between the community and the school through the combined ventures of students and community volunteers.
- b. Beginning with the Class of 2024 and thereafter, must perform forty (40) hours of student community service to graduate and receive a high school diploma.
- c. Student Community Service is the blending of school and community through student involvement, participation and volunteering in identified activities such as, but not limited to: non-profit organizations, community agencies, service clubs, and school and community events. (See Appendix for more extensive acceptable activities.) The service provided must be unpaid and may not accrue credit towards graduation.

2. Requirements

- a. Beginning with the graduating Class of 2024, students are recommended to complete at least five (5) hours of Student Community Service per semester and are required to complete a total of forty (40) hours for graduation. The requirement may be adjusted for students entering the District after the first semester of ninth grade.

The following chart shows the number of hours required based on entry to the SUHSD.

GRADE	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
9	40	35
10	30	25
11	20	15
12	10	5

- b. The District strongly encourages students to continue involvement in volunteer service throughout the entire calendar year beyond the hours recommended. All hours worked will be recorded and applied toward the Student Community Service requirement and the Community Service Recognition Program.

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- c. All Student Community Service hours must be pre-approved by the site coordinator of Student Community Service. Approval may be received for hours served in one or more of the following categories: non-profit, educational entity, career-development.
- d. During the four years of high school, students are required to perform a minimum of ten (10) hours in at least two (2) different categories listed in Section 2C.
- e. A student may have a maximum of twenty (20) hours of educational entity involvement to meet the graduation requirement.
- f. Students may also receive Community Service credit for a maximum of ten (10) hours of career-related activities outside the school day.
- g. A student may appeal any hours disallowed by the coordinator to the principal. The principal's decision is final. Appeals cannot be made to a higher level.
- h. All community service hours must be submitted by the last day of school during the academic year in which they were completed. Hours completed during summer school should be submitted upon return to school in August.

3. Responsibilities

a. Students

- 1). Students must initiate and complete the Student Community Service Contract for approval of the activity in advance of performing any service. Students must contact the school's Work Experience Coordinator to identify service opportunities or to receive prior approval for a special or unique event or organization.
- 2). Students must be punctual, courteous, flexible, and responsible for the completion of Student Community Service Contracts.
- 3). Students will demonstrate personal knowledge of the outcome of the service activity in completing the contract.
- 4). Transportation arrangements are the responsibility of the student/parent.

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b. Community Organization/Person

- 1). The community organization, agency, activity or event receiving student service must describe the service performed, hours served, and involvement of the student.
- 2). Supervise and evaluate student volunteer involvement and sign the Community Service Contract verifying the total hours earned.

c. Parents

- 1). Sign and approve Student Community Service Contract.
- 2). Provide needed transportation.
- 3). Receive information about available community service learning opportunities from their local school. The district requests that parents/guardians acknowledge this information before students participate in off-campus service activities.

d. Experience Coordinator

- 1). Serve as the liaison between the community and the school.
- 2). When possible, arrange Student Community Service opportunities in partnership with the community.
- 3). Approve and maintain student contracts and records.
- 4). Render decisions for individual and unique requests.

4. Recognition Program

In order to recognize student involvement beyond the graduation requirement, the District will develop a Community Service Recognition Program. Recognition will be based on the total accumulation of hours of involvement as each level is achieved.

- a. Recognitions indicated will be awarded top seniors at each school site who have accumulated total hours of Community Service at the following levels.

100 Hours - - Century Award Certificate for each 100 hours achieved

200 Hours - - Special Recognition Award

300 Hours - - Community Service Award

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500 Hours - - Meritorious Service Award
Top Hours – “Service Award of the Year”

- b. School sites may recognize Community Service as part of their student recognition program on an annual, ongoing basis. Graduating seniors may be recognized by service clubs or organizations at the schools’ awards ceremonies if the school wishes. Each school may determine whether or not to recognize these students publicly at the graduation ceremony.

SAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE ACTIVITIES

Appendix A

NON-PROFIT
Service to nonprofit organizations (e.g., United Way, American Lung Association, American Heart Association, March of Dimes, etc.)
Community service organizations (e.g., YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Bread Box, Sunrise House, Second Chance Youth Program, Women’s Crisis Center, etc.)
Volunteer work through Scouts, 4 -H, FFA, church activities, synagogues, etc.
Special community events (e.g., Cherry’s Jubilee, California Air Show, California Rodeo, etc.)
Involvement with public agency activities (e.g., non-paid involvement with Park and Recreation, city clean up, etc.)
Service performed through recognized school service clubs, (e.g., Key Club, Interact Club, AFS, ADAPT, etc.)
Emergency disaster involvement (e.g., American Red Cross, FEMA, etc.)
Volunteer involvement (non-paid)—coaching, officiating, etc.—with youth athletic activities (e.g., Little League, Bobby Sox, American Youth Soccer, etc.)
Social service to the homeless, crisis centers, etc. (e.g., Dorothy’s Kitchen, Victory Mission, I-HELP Program, etc.)
Volunteer service to the elderly (e.g., convalescent homes, senior centers, Meals on Wheels, County Library, etc.)
Volunteer work for political activities (e.g., bond election, political campaign, etc.) Political campaigns shall not be publicized on school sites. Students must initiate involvement on their own.
EDUCATION ENTITY
Service learning through school classes (not required)—outside the school day.

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Instruction

Regulation #6142.4

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School-related involvement (e.g., service on campus on the student's own time—before/after school, at lunch, etc.)

Non-paid, organized tutoring

CAREER-DEVELOPMENT

Career-related involvement (e.g., job shadowing, interview, visitations, etc.)

NOTE: Students will generally receive credit for pre-approved activities for which they are not “paid”, (i.e., receive money, credit at school, grades, etc.) Service involvement is on the student's own personal time beyond the school day and can occur at any time throughout the calendar year. The activity must also provide “volunteer service” to another individual, organization or agency.

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