



PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

EXAMPLES OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

CRITERIA: Basically, any activity that is performed by the student that somehow volunteers his/her services to the community, a group, an individual, a school, etc., and for which the student **does not** receive any compensation (monetary or otherwise), qualifies as a service activity.

Some examples of **UNPAID** volunteer service activities:

- Church volunteer work (nursery, acolyte, clean up, teaching VBS or Sunday school, mission trips)
- Volunteering at a museum, zoo, Humane Society, or similar venue
- Park, beach, or community improvements (cleaning up trash, painting, repairing structures, etc.)
- Volunteering with Habitat for Humanity
- Volunteering with the Girl or Boy Scouts
- Volunteering with Special Olympics
- Volunteering at a nursing home, hospice, hospital, school, mental health facility
- Manning the phones for a hotline (example: suicide hotline)
- Abuse awareness (distributing informative literature about drug abuse awareness, etc.)
- Volunteering with public TV or radio
- Helping with the homeless, food banks (includes food collection), soup kitchens, thrift stores
- Disaster relief
- Livestrong Challenge, Tour de Cure for Diabetes, Relay for Life, Breast Cancer Awareness, etc.
- Free tutoring or mentoring
- Volunteering with the Salvation Army, Red Cross, Goodwill Industries, etc.
- Elf Louise, Toys for Tots, Blue Santa
- Fundraising for any type of cause (car washes, school concession stands, selling a product in which the proceeds go to the cause)
- Elderly assistance (mowing, housekeeping, mail/trash pickup, grocery shopping, taking the person to doctor's appointments, reading to the visually challenged, etc.)
- Collecting and distributing care packages for the military

OTHER ACCEPTABLE HOURS: Volunteer service hours that are served as a requirement for honor societies (UHS, NHS, SHS, etc.), service-type clubs (PALS, FRIENDS, FCA, student council, serving as an officer in a club or similar, etc.) **will count** as service hours toward the President's Volunteer Service Award **as long as they meet the criteria above even when they are earned during class time.**

EXAMPLES OF INELIGIBLE HOURS:

Activities that are a requirement for participation in a group or class, or those for which you receive a grade in a class, are not eligible (exception: service-type activities). For example: individual participation at band, cheer, and dance camps/trips, etc. are not eligible.

EXAMPLES:

- Band, choir, orchestra, theater etc. concerts are not eligible unless they serve the community and are given for free (example: offering one's talents in a concert given to nursing home residents for which there is no money charged for the concert). Only the hours for the concert count, not the hours required to rehearse for it because those rehearsal hours are required for all the other concerts in which there is a fee charged to attend.
- Concerts and plays offered at Reagan do not count because the public pays to see those performances.
- Concerts and plays offered to the student body do not count because the director requires them as part of the class.
- Band/choir trips do not count because they are required and there is participant training involved.
- Any activity for which the student receives monetary compensation or for which there is a fee charged for the activity (even if the student does not collect the money), does not count. The only exception to this is fundraising for a cause or working in a concession stand that benefits a school or similar

If in doubt as to whether an activity will count as a service hour, please email Michele Horst mhorst@sbcglobal.net or Cindy Tello cyntello@gmail.com (Reagan High School PVSA Chairpersons) with a description of the activity.

November, 2011