

Community Service

Florida Academic Scholars Award, Florida Medallion Award, Gold Seal Vocational Award Bright Futures

To access an award through the Bright Futures Program, a student must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the school, which will require the student to identify a social problem that interests him or her, develop a plan for his or her personal involvement in addressing the problem, and through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon his or her experience.

(Florida Statute 1009.534)

Community Service is defined as identifying and addressing 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 citizen, homelessness). These hours will meet the requirement for the Florida Bright Futures Award Program.

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 Bright Futures.

Florida Academic Scholars - **100** hours of community service

Florida Medallion Scholars - **75** hours of community service

Florida Gold Seal Vocational - **30** hours of community service

- Students must complete a Community Service Proposal Form and submit it for approval to the Community Service Designee at the school site prior to beginning the service.
- Students must reflect on their experience using the designated form at the conclusion of the project.
- Students should keep copies of **all** documentation that is submitted to the schools.
- Projects done during the summer before beginning 9th grade will be considered **if a proposal is submitted and approved by the high school the student plans to attend.**
- Students must perform the service during non-school hours.
- Fundraising may count as community service if all funds raised are donated to address a social issue in the community.
- Service-Learning projects may count as community service if preapproved by the Community Service Designee.
- **All community service hour documentation MUST be submitted by the school's graduation date.**
Any community service hours submitted after the graduation date even if earned prior to graduation will not be accepted. No Exceptions.

Hours That Are Not Acceptable

- Family related activities.
- Hours that are compensated either financially or with some other material benefit.
- Court mandated community service.
- Service for the sole benefit of a religious house of worship and/or its congregation.
- Service for promoting a political candidate.
- Co-curricular activities that are course requirements.
- An activity where there is no leader or responsible adult on site to evaluate and confirm student performance.
- Donations (ex. blood, Locks of Love)
- Hours submitted after graduation.

Bright Futures Community Service Proposal

Name _____ Date _____

Student # _____ High School _____ Graduation Year _____

Organization(s) where the hours will be performed: 		Answer yes (Y) or no (N) to all of the following questions in the spaces provided:	Y/N
		Is the activity family related?	
		Will you be compensated either financially or with some other material benefit?	
		Is the activity court mandated community service?	
		Is the service for the sole benefit of a religious house of worship and/or its congregation?	
		Does the service promote a political candidate?	
		Is the activity required for one of your classes?	
		Are you donating an item like blood, hair, or canned food?	
		Will the hours be submitted after your graduation?	
		Will a leader or responsible adult with the organization be on site to evaluate and confirm student performance?	
What social issue(s) will your activity address? (circle all that apply):	Abuse	Health	
	Animals	Homelessness	
	Education	Hunger	
	Elderly	Poverty	
	Environment	Other:	

Keep copies for your records of all documentation.

I understand that this proposal to participate in community service is entirely voluntary on my part and that the completion of documented community service related to this proposal can be used to satisfy the community service requirement of the Florida Academic Scholarship, Florida Medallion Scholarship and Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award. Selection of the organization, services performed, and documentation are the responsibility of the student. Signature of the Community Service Contact indicates that the student has presented an appropriate social issue for meeting the community service requirement of the Bright Futures Scholarship Program. **All community service hour documentation MUST be submitted by the school's graduation date. Any community service hours submitted after the graduation date even if earned prior to graduation will not be accepted. No Exceptions**

Student Signature

Date

High School Community Service Contact Signature

Date

Hillsborough County Public Schools

Record of Community Service Hours

Name _____ Graduation Date _____

Student# _____ High School _____

The student must submit a proposal to the Community Service Contact at the school site before beginning any project.
It is the responsibility of the student to keep the actual record of the hours of service performed.

Total Hours _____

All community service hour documentation MUST be submitted by the school's graduation date. Any community service hours submitted after the graduation date even if earned prior to graduation will not be accepted. No exceptions.

Date of Activity	Community Service Location	Hours Logged	Signature of Service Agency Contact/Phone #

I agree that I have performed the above hours.

Student Signature

Date

High School Community Service Contact Signature

Date