

Birdville High School National Honor Society  
2020-2021  
Community Service Guidelines

**What does it mean to volunteer?**

Volunteer service is a helpful act that contributes to the welfare of others. It is performed without pay for non-profit organizations that rely heavily on volunteers for its success. Community service hours are hours which directly benefits either (1) people experiencing poverty, discrimination, abuse, poor health, old age, and/or physical-mental limitations or (2) the protection of animals or the environment for which an individual does not receive financial compensation.

**What are the service guidelines for membership in the National Honor Society?**

- Membership in the Birdville High School chapter of the National Honor Society requires that students earn 24 (reduced to 20 this year) hours of community service each year (20 hours for new members during induction year - reduced to 10 hours this year).
- All service hours must be recorded and approved by logging and documenting through x2Vol.
- Returning members may begin to earn hours during the summer. Ten hours earned in the summer months may be counted toward the next yearly requirement.
- Service hours should be submitted as soon as they are earned; denied service hours might affect membership status/graduation honors.
- Parents cannot sign off on hours for their children.

We have carefully read the Community Service Guidelines and requirements and reviewed what counts and does not count as community service. We recognize that it is the student's responsibility to fulfill these requirements for graduation.

---

Student Signature

Date signed

---

Student Name (*Please print*)

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date signed

---

Parent/Guardian Name (*Please print*)

### **What does the National Honor Society count as volunteer service?**

- Volunteering for a nonprofit organization such as American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, United Way, Special Olympics, Relay for Life, Salvation Army, Goodwill, March of Dimes, SPCA, local Food Banks, etc.
- Tutoring/mentoring - must be completed outside of regular school hours
- Church or youth group activities that benefit the community - for example, your youth group helps with a Special Olympics bowling tournament
- Teaching youth worship classes counts for hours
- Club activities that perform a service for a community organization - for example, working with Student Council to put together food baskets for Thanksgiving
- Volunteering at a hospital/nursing home
- Donating blood to the American Red Cross will count as 1 hour per donation
- Involvement in service projects of for-profit businesses that address a community service need will result in justifiable community service hours (ex. Walgreen's Red Nose Days)
- Helping elderly or disabled neighbors. Chores, cutting the lawn, running errands.
- Coaching of youth sports (non-compensated) will generally count.
- Any activity approved through the NHS Advisors

### **What does NOT count toward the NHS Service requirement?**

*It is a good idea to have any work you do for a teacher approved by an NHS sponsor before you begin the work.  
When in doubt - ask!!*

- Grading papers for teachers
- Working at a for-profit business for free... companies do not rely on volunteers for success!!
- Student managing (i.e. varsity basketball manager)
- Anything that occurs during school hours...you may not miss class to volunteer
  - Fine Arts Days, Blood Drives
- Anything done with a school group/team that directly benefits the team or booster club financially.
- Volunteering for a class
- Involvement in school/community/church musicals or plays
  - Working within your church, synagogue, mosque, etc., will NOT satisfy the community service requirement UNLESS you are doing some type of outreach within the community (benefit concert, car wash for charity
  - Helping out at church - playing music, ushering, etc. It is your obligation as a good church member to do these tasks.
- Club meetings/activities or band activities unless you are performing service for a community non-profit organization
- Anything you are paid for
- Community hours required by court or as another form of discipline
- Church or youth group activities – participating in youth group DOES NOT COUNT.... Having a carwash with your youth group to raise money for Special Olympics DOES COUNT
- Working at your job for free
- Campaign efforts for candidates - this is a civic duty
- Babysitting for a family, daycare, or at a church
- Any type of performances required for class/credit

**\*\*This page is posted in our Canvas class - refer to it as often as needed throughout the year!!**