



LWHS Community Service for Graduating Class of 2013 and Beyond

Hours earned after October 1, 2011 must follow the 2012 Florida Statute 1009.534

A student must complete a program of community service work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school, or the Department of Education for home education program students, which shall include a minimum of 75 hours of service work for high school students graduating in the 2010-2011 academic year and 100 hours of service work for high school students graduating in the 2012-2013 academic year and thereafter, and must 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.

Requirements from the statute:

- 100 hours for “Academic Scholar”, 75 hours for “Medallion Scholar”, and 30 for “Gold Seal Vocational”
- Identify a social problem that interests the student
- Develop a plan for student involvement that addresses the social problem
- Evaluate and reflect upon the experience through papers or other presentations

Community Service is defined as identifying and addressing a social issue in the community. This requires students to reach out into the community to help solve an issue (homelessness, poverty, abuse, hunger, bullying, literacy, addiction, etc.). These hours **will** meet the requirement for the Florida Bright Futures Award Program.

Hours that CAN Be Counted Must:

- Be approved by Mrs. Thompson **PRIOR TO** starting
- Have proper documentation- see forms required below
- Be done during non-school hours
- Be done for a non-profit organization

Hours That CANNOT Be Counted:

- Hours completed prior to receiving approval to proceed from Mrs. Thompson
- Family related activities
- Court mandated community service
- Service for the sole benefit of a religious house of worship and/or its congregation (cleaning the church, babysitting during a service, setting up sound equipment for a church service)
- Service for promoting a political candidate
- Co-curricular activities that are course requirements (band, chorus or orchestra rehearsals and/or performances)

Community Service Coordinator: Krista Thompson ~ krista.thompson@lwcharterschools.com

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- Any project or activity where students are compensated financially or with some other material benefit
- Any activity where there is no leader or responsible adult on site to evaluate and confirm student performance

Forms required for community service hours to be counted:

1. A proposal form approved and signed by Mrs. Thompson **BEFORE** hours are started
2. A completed Record of Service Hours & Agency Application form (turned in at the conclusion of hours or semester deadline)
3. An approved reflection- see packet for guidelines

Remember: Students should make and keep a copy of all forms submitted. Mrs. Thompson will take the originals and file them.



Community Service at Church Guidelines

Approved

• Activities that benefit the community at large

- Examples:
 - ✓ neighborhood clean-up
 - ✓ food bank
 - ✓ community festivals
 - ✓ hurricane relief
 - ✓ building/repairing homes for the needy
 - ✓ after school tutoring
 - ✓ toy drive
 - ✓ Christmas tree/turkey delivery to needy families
 - ✓ homeless ministries
 - ✓ singing Christmas carols in a nursing home or other community center

• Mission Trips

- Maximum of 8 hours per day, unless **prior** approval granted by community service coordinator
- Time must be omitted for down time such as meal time
- Activities must be consistent with guidelines for all church community service (no worship/evangelism hours counted)



NOT Approved

Activities that are related to worship or evangelism or only benefit the church

- Example:
 - * anything related to the worship service including altar boy, church greeter, etc.
 - * door-to-door, phone call, or in-person witnessing
 - * praise team performance and/or practice
 - * actor performing in passion plays or similar performances
 - * Sunday school or bible study teacher
 - * working prayer or witness booths at festivals, store fronts, etc.
 - * distributing faith-based literature or tracts
 - * **setting up for/cleaning up after a worship service**
 - * church planting or helping a new church with start-up
 - * **maintenance of the inside or outside of the church building**
 - * working in nursery during church service
 - * Vacation Bible School or similar summer camp



LWHS Community Service Reflections

Reflections are a **required** part of earning Community Service hours, but can take many forms. Below are some suggestions. If you wish to do something not on the list, please see Mrs. Thompson and get approval **before** you do the reflection. Be sure to put your name, ID number and graduation year on your reflection before you turn it in!

- Prezi
- Keynote/PowerPoint
- Blog or journal of your time spent with brief reflections after each experience (or day)
- Video (you reflecting OR a movie of your experience that shows your thoughts on the four questions below- 3 to 5 minutes long)
- Podcast (same length as video)
- Comic strip with captions noting the four questions
- Written/typed reflection addressing the four questions (written- one side only; typed- double spaced, one side only)

Each reflection **MUST** include thoughtful responses to the following questions:

1. What goals were identified and accomplished? What goals were not accomplished?
2. Through this experience, what have you learned about yourself?
3. How has this experience made a positive impact upon your community?
4. Would you recommend this experience to others? Why/why not?

If turning in a digital project, please send it (or the link) via email to krista.thompson@lwcharterschools.com. For hand written or drawn projects, please turn them in to Mrs. Thompson. Videos and podcasts must be burned to a disc and turned in to Mrs. Thompson, as well.



LWHS Community Service Agencies & Ideas

Below is a list of agencies that provide opportunities for Community Service and ideas for creating your own project. This list is not conclusive; it is simply to get you started. Agencies and projects not on the list may be acceptable based upon your proposal.

Lake Wales Care Center

140 E Park Avenue
Lake Wales, FL 33853
(863) 676-6678
<http://www.lakewalescarecenter.org/>

Circle of Friends

105 East Stuart Ave
Lake Wales, FL 33853
(863) 679-2507

Cornerstone Hospice

Sherry DiSimone 863-242-9416
<http://www.cornerstonehospice.org>

National Service Learning Clearing

House- search for project ideas
<http://www.servicelarning.org/youthsite/high-school>

Meals on Wheels of Polk County, Inc.

620 6th St. NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881
(863) 299-1616
<http://www.mealsonwheelspolk.com>

Dale R. Fair Babson Park Elementary

(863) 678-4664
www.lwcharterschools.com/babsonpark

Make A Wish Foundation

324 N. Dale Mabry Hwy
Suite 203
Tampa, FL 33606
Phone: (813) 288-2600
information@suncoastwish.org
<http://www.wishcentralfl.wish.org>

Janie Howard Wilson Elementary

(863) 678-4211
<http://www.janiehowardwilson.com>

Hillcrest Elementary

(863) 678-4215
<http://hillcrestsoaringhawks.com>

United Way of Central Florida

PO Box 1357
Highland City, FL 33846-1357
(863) 648-1500
<http://www.uwcf.org/>

Polk Avenue Elementary

(863) 678-4244
<http://www.polkavenue.net>

Boys and Girls Club of America

Lake Wales, FL 33881
Telephone: (863) 679-8582

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LWHS Community Service Graduation Honor & Bright Futures Requirements

The following are the hour requirements for Community Service **graduation honors**.

Note: Community Service is NOT a requirement for graduation.

Award	Hours Served
Certificate	50-99 hours served
Certificate with embossed seal	Beyond 100 hours served
Silver Cords	250 or more hours served
Medallion	500 or more hours served
Special Honor Recognition	1000 or more hours served

The following are the Community Service hour requirements for **Bright Futures**.

Award	Hours Served
Academic Scholar	100 hours served
Medallion Scholar	75 hours served
Gold Seal Vocational	30 hours served