

DeSales Service Program FAQ's

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I'm a freshman. Can my hours in the summer before my freshman year count or do I have to wait till school starts?

Yes, hours you complete during the summer prior to your Freshman year count! They must be completed after your 8th grade graduation. See the Freshman Service Requirements doc to see what types of hours will fit with Theology, and your House competition. Since your DeSales Mobile Serve account isn't set up yet, just record the information about the event/agency, what the agency/church is, and contact information for the volunteer coordinator including an agency issued email. Once we get you in the system you will be able to log those hours into Mobile Serve.

Can I do my hours early?

Yes! Students are encouraged to do their hours early. Students will have deadlines for hours in the fall and spring. If you want to go ahead and complete all of your hours during summer break or the fall go for it!

I have a really busy schedule. When should I do my hours?

Students are encouraged to plan completing service hours around their other yearly commitments. If you are busy at the beginning of the school year with a club or sport, start over the summer! Our service program is intended to teach curriculum concepts, but also these valuable life skills like responsibility, time management, and long range planning. If you need help or suggestions to help with this talk with the Campus Minister. **Do not wait until the last minute.**

What counts for Theology service vs House Competition?

- anything above requirement or at a nonprofit/organization that doesn't fit your early requirement
- Requirements and what will count varies between grades. See the Service Requirement document for your grade level at <https://www.desaleshighschool.com/apps/pages/service>
- Sports team managers: will count for 10 theology hours if you are a FRESHMAN, if you
- are an UPPERCLASSMAN 10 hours will count for house points

How many House Points do we get for each Service hour?

Service is one of five house points categories: Spirit, Academics, Intramurals, Discipline and Service. Points will not be allotted by individual service hour, but will be divided amongst the houses based on their total number of hours in relation to each other. Points will be given twice a year similarly to the way Academics is awarded.

Can I do service for/with a sports team or club I am in?

- Service completed that meets the school's General Requirements performed with a team/club outside of school hours does count for house points (ex: wrestling team working blood drive, track team working a meet for Special Olympics)
- Service that a team directly benefits from OR that raises money for a team does NOT count for service

- Sports team managers: will count for 10 theology hours if you are a FRESHMAN or SENIOR, if you are an SOPHOMORE OR JUNIOR it will count for 10 hours for house points

Do hours for immersion and service immersion count?

- Each immersion is expected to do a specific number of hours, therefore service on immersion is a part of the immersion experience, and will count for House Hours.
- Immersions performing a large number of service hours (above the expected number of hours) such as the Service immersion might not count OR may only partially count depending on your requirements for theology.

Does Joseph of Arimathea count as service?

- does not count since it is during the school day
- does count if it is during the summer or outside of the school day for Freshman or Sophomore Theology hours and/or house points

Can I do service at nursing homes or schools?

- Service should not be completed for individual people
- Service done at these locations must be with a program working with the population the agency serves through the agency or program's volunteer coordinator.
- Theology hours for sophomores - house points for other grades if it is a nonprofit, if it is not, see the Campus Minister to discuss before performing the hours

What are Club service requirements?

Requirements for these hours depend on club bylaws. See your club moderator for questions.

Do hours at DeSales (open house, phone-a-thon, benefit feast, etc) count for service?

- For freshmen and Seniors they DO count for theology since that is part of the requirement
- for other grades, service at DHS is encouraged and will count for the House Service Competition
- Depending on Bylaws, may count for clubs such as NHS/Beta

Can I go to _____ Agency or event? (Freshmen)

- Contact Mrs. MO with any questions, you will need to be able to answer the following:
 - Is it a program or event sponsored by a church?

- Is it a program or event sponsored by DeSales?
- If the answer to these two previous questions is no the option probably does not fit the Freshman Requirements. Some exceptions to these requirements may be made on a case by case basis and must be approved by Ms. M-O in advance.

Can I go to _____ Agency or event? (Sophomore)

- Contact Mrs. MO with any questions, you will need to be able to answer the following:
 - Is it a nonprofit agency?
 - Is the agency's mission connected to an area the Church is connected to in the world?
- If the answer to these two previous questions is no the option probably does not fit the Sophomore Requirements. Some exceptions to these requirements may be made on a case by case basis and must be approved by Ms. M-O in advance.

Can I go to _____ Agency? (Juniors)

- Contact Mrs. MO with any questions, you will need to be able to answer the following:
 - Is it a nonprofit?
 - What is the SJ topic this agency seeks to address?
 - What is the work the agency does?

Can I go to _____ Agency or event? (Seniors)

- Contact Mrs. MO with any questions, you will need to be able to answer the following:
 - Is it a nonprofit agency? Is it a Church? Is it with an organized event at DeSales that all students are able to participate in?
- If the answer to these previous questions is no the option probably does not fit the Requirements. Some exceptions to these requirements may be made on a case by case basis and must be approved by Ms. M-O in advance.

My parent/friend/aunt/uncle works for _____ can I volunteer with them?

- First you will need to identify if the organization fits your hours requirements.
- Second you need to identify if it is a nonprofit agency.
- If the answer to the above questions is yes - you must complete your service through the agency's volunteer coordinator, not other individual employees
- Relatives of students may not verify hours

Who verifies my hours?

- Hours must be verified by the volunteer coordinator who is in charge of the event, or from the agency volunteer coordinator
- You must use an agency issued email address for the volunteer coordinator