



Montgomery County Public Schools
(MCPS)
North Bethesda Middle School
(NBMS)
Student Service Learning
(SSL)

SSL stands for Student Service Learning. Students in the State of Maryland are required to earn 75 hours to graduate from high school. Service Learning must be conducted with non-profit, tax-exempt organizations and must be non-religious in nature. All hours must be pre-approved by MCPS or the school SSL Coordinator.

How do I earn SSL hours?

- Earn hours in specific middle school courses (Grade 6 Science, Grade 7 English Language Arts (ELA), and Grade 8 Social Studies) through full participation in SSL activities and successful completion of the course. Earn hours by participating in service-focused activities promoted by school-sponsored clubs and organizations, and volunteering at a nonprofit school to assist a teacher or staff member.
- Earn hours through involvement in service activities with non-profit community organizations that are pre-approved for SSL (meet both MCPS SSL guidelines and requirements). Resources include:

- ◆ MCPS SSL website => <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/>
- ◆ The Montgomery County Volunteer Center keeps a list of approved SSL opportunities. You can recognize these by the tag “MCPS SSL” also identified with a graduation cap  website => <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/volunteers/ssl.html>

- ◆ **Check the NBMS SSL MyMCPS Classroom frequently**

***Students and adults, please join the NBMS SSL MyMCPS Classroom to receive SSL information specific to NBMS. **Link** => <https://mcpsmd.instructure.com/enroll/FC6DG7>.

SSL Requirements include:

- ★ SSL must be done with a nonprofit tax-exempt organization
- ★ SSL opportunities must be secular in nature (non-religious), must occur in a public place, and must be open to the greater community.
- ★ SSL must be supervised; family members and relatives may not supervise students.
- ★ Exemptions, details => <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/pages/faq.aspx>
 - SSL can be done in for-profit assisted living and nursing homes *if* direct interaction with residents is involved. An Individual Student Service Learning (SSL) Request MCPS Form 560-50 must be submitted and approved.
 - Homeless shelters that are pre-approved may provide SSL hours for meal preparation done in the home; the number of hours awarded is based on the number of meals provided.

SSL FAQs:

- **How many hours do I need?** Students who attended an MCPS school from 6th grade through 12 grade will be required to earn at least 75 SSL hours to graduate high school. Required SSL hours will be adjusted for students who were not enrolled in an MCPS school since 6th grade or left MCPS for a period of time.
- **What do I do before and after I complete a pre-approved service?** It is the student's responsibility to research and work with the pre-approved SSL organization(s) to earn SSL hours. Once students have secured an SSL Opportunity they must complete the *Student Service Learning (SSL) Activity Verification* 560-51 => <https://ww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/560-51.pdf>. **Students should make sure all**

forms are completely filled out, Ms. Jurewicz cannot process incomplete forms. Students may email an electronic copy of the completely filled out form(s) to Ms. Jurewicz, the NBMS SSL Coordinator, at Carla.A.Jurewicz@mcpsmd.net. The other option is to complete a hard copy of the form. The Counseling Office has an SSL table with hard copies of forms and designated grade-level bins for completed forms.

- **What if I want to volunteer at an organization that is not pre-approved or create my own service opportunity/project?** First, review the guidelines and requirements on the MCPS SSL website => <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/> . If the service meets MCPS SSL guidelines and requirements the next step is to complete the *Individual Student Service Learning (SSL) Request MCPS Form 560-50* => <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/560-50.pdf> . Completed forms should be submitted to Ms. Jurewicz via email at least two weeks before the student begins service. Students will receive a confirmation via email concerning whether or not the service is approved for SSL hours.
- **Are there deadlines for turning in the Verification forms?** Turn in summer forms by the last Friday of September. Turn in 1st-semester forms by the first Friday in January. Turn in 2nd-semester forms by the last Friday in May. ***Forms turned in after the deadline or that are incomplete may not be processed***
- **How do I know if my Verification form was processed?** Allow up to three weeks after a deadline for forms to be processed, check Student Vue quarterly to see updated hours. ***Keep a copy of your SSL forms.***
- **What's the special recognition I can earn?** If you earn 75 SSL hours in middle school by the first Friday in April, you will automatically earn the Superintendent's SSL Award. There is also an award at the high school level.
- **What if I have more questions?** The MCPS SSL website has a wealth of information and resources => <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/>. If you still need help email Ms. Jurewicz, NBMS SSL Coordinator, at Carla.A.Jurewicz@mcpsmd.net. If you would like to meet in person, email Ms. Jurewicz to make an appointment. You may also stop by Ms. Jurewicz's office in the 6th grade wing, room A104.

Preguntas Frecuentes Sobre Horas de Aprendizaje Mediante Servicio Estudiantil (SSL)

- **¿Como puedo ganar horas?** Se puede ganar horas trabajando como voluntario con su tiempo haciendo una actividad aprobada cerca de usted.
- **¿Qué si quiero hacer algo que no está en la lista?** Tendrá que leer las instrucciones en el sitio de web de Escuelas Públicas de Montgomery County.
- **¿Cuántas horas tengo que tener?** Si ha sido estudiante en una escuela pública de Montgomery county desde el 6o. grado, se necesitan 75 horas para graduarse. Si usted se inscribió después de ese grado puede visitar el sitio debajo (o preguntar al coordinador o su consejero) para aprender cuántas horas se necesitan.
- **¿Qué tengo que hacer después de una actividad?** Llene el documento de la verificación de horas de aprendizaje mediante servicio estudiantil encontrado en el sitio debajo o en la oficina de orientación, obtenga las firmas requeridas, haga su propia copia, y después entregue el documento a la caja en la oficina de orientación.
- **¿Hay fecha de topes para entregar el documento?** ¡Sí! ¡ No espere porque es posible que perderá sus horas! Entregue las horas del verano el último viernes de septiembre. Entregue las horas del primer semestre el primer viernes de enero. Entregue las horas del segundo semestre el primer viernes en Junio.
- **Entregue el documento. ¿Como puedo saber si fueron actualizado?** Verá una actualización cuando se reciben las primeras calificaciones.
- **¿Qué es el reconocimiento especial que puedo recibir?** Si obtiene 75 horas en la escuela intermedia, automáticamente ganará un certificado de superintendente . Si obtiene 260 horas en la escuela secundaria, automáticamente ganará un certificado de servicio meritoria.
- **¿Qué si tengo más preguntas?** Favor de visitar al sitio debajo. Tiene todas las respuestas que necesitará. Si ya tiene preguntas, ve o envía un mensaje de correo electrónico a la coordinadora, Sra Carla Abreu Jurewicz, Carla.A.Jurewicz@mcpsmd.net

Para toda la información que necesitará sobre horas de aprendizaje mediante servicio estudiantil: http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/
