

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions: Campbell Hall Community Service Graduation Requirements

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What are community service projects?

Campbell Hall defines community service as

- Delivered directly to constituents of a charitable organization registered as a “not for profit” institution or organization or participation in a project sponsored by such an organization
- Provided to at least one person, other than the student and/or the student’s relative, and benefiting either the Campbell Hall community (called “school service”) or the “community at large”
- Performed without compensation to the student
- NOT mandated by a court of law

Why do I have to serve hours with a registered non-profit?

The reason that service is limited to non-profits is that they are generally designed to provide services to a community rather than their focus being profit, which would then translate into students working for free to make money for a company (rather than contributing to an organization designed to benefit the community as a whole).

How do I know if my community service is associated with a non-profit organization?

One way is to directly ask your organization if they are a non-profit designated by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service). A second way is to search the name of the organization at www.guidestar.org and see if they are listed as a non-profit. However, the information on [guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org) may not be up-to-date. Lastly, you may reach out to the current Director of Community Service to inquire directly.

Is serving my place of worship (church, synagogue, temple, etc.) counted as community service?

It can. However, if you are participating in worship (i.e., altar server), then this is considered a personal obligation and NOT community service. Many students find ways to serve charitable organizations through their place of worship and this is perfectly acceptable.

Is serving a political campaign for an elected office counted as community service?

No, because we believe political campaigns for an elected office mostly benefit a single individual rather than the community-at-large. For campaigns that are political in nature, you

must prove that you are following the 1st requirement of the CH definition of community service: “Delivered directly to constituents of a charitable organization registered as a “not for profit” institution or organization or participation in a project sponsored by such an organization.” However, participating in unpaid internships with the office of an elected official (not related to campaigning) could certainly be serving the community at large, and would likely be approved as community service.

Can I volunteer as a CIT or Counselor at a summer camp?

Before volunteering as a camp counselor or CIT (Counselor In Training), you must be sure to check that the camp you plan to work for is registered as a non-profit organization. We have had to deny literally hundreds of volunteer hours from camps claiming to provide community service hours while still operating as a for-profit institution.

Does travel time count for community service hours?

No.

How do charity run/walks count?

Students who participate in service that involves charity or fundraiser runs/walks may receive only up to four (4) hours of community service per event.

Is donating blood or hair counted as community service?

Students who donate blood or hair may receive only up to four (4) hours per donation.

What’s the difference between school service and community service?

School service is defined as voluntary service not required by a course or faculty member that benefits only the Campbell Hall internal community. Up to 5 hours of a student’s Community Service 20-hour requirement per year may be fulfilled with approved school service that benefits the Campbell Hall community. Ways to help include guiding prospective students around campus (during Secondary Prospective Days or regular school days), helping with the setup and food at the Baccalaureate Luncheon (for juniors to apply to their senior year service only) and assisting staff members with various tasks. These service hours must be submitted using the same protocols as normal hours but should be categorized as "School Service Hours."

How do I get started?

Using the MobileServe app as well as the [ample search engine links and resources found on the community service webpage](#), students should be able to find appropriate service opportunities (all service organizations listed on our website are automatically pre-approved). Students are required to obtain approval from their direct supervisor immediately upon completing their service that same day.

There are two ways for a student to begin the process of earning community service hours:

Option #1: The easiest is to select from a pre-approved list of community service organizations and opportunities on the MobileServe app or this Community Service Website. Students may sign up through the app, or directly contact the particular

organization and communicate with them to establish what is needed from them. Once the service has been performed or completed, students must log hours on MobileServe ensuring they complete all the items on the [Checklist](#).

Option #2: If a student wishes to participate in a community service opportunity not found on MobileServe or the Community Service Website, the student must first verify that the organization is an IRS registered nonprofit organization. It's always good to double check before doing the service.

Is there any paperwork involved?

No. We no longer accept paper forms for community service logs. All logs must be submitted via the MobileServe app.

How does a student receive credit for a community service project when it is completed?

When using MobileServe, hours are automatically sent to the community service director for approval. Any hours submitted with email verification from your supervisor will be automatically approved (once the associated supervisor verifies the hours via email). When approved, students will be able to check their up-to-date hours using their profile on the app. Students should ensure the log of their hours has been approved within 2 weeks of completing their service log. If it has not, the student must follow up with their supervisor and/or the Campbell Hall director of community service.

When may a student complete their yearly community service requirement?

The service period for the 2023-2024 school year is May 15, 2023, to April 30, 2024.

May students work on several small projects or are they required to work on one project exclusively?

Either option is acceptable so long as hours are verified appropriately.

How does a student select a meaningful community service project?

Each student should think about the following questions before selecting a community service project:

- What needs or problems exist in the community that you are interested in working on?
- Will your project address one of those needs or problems?
- Does the project match your interests, skills, and abilities?
- Are there any special qualifications you will need to work on the project(s)?
- Will you be able to spend the necessary time on the project?
- Who needs to be contacted before the project begins?
- Are you able to travel to the appropriate location for the service in question?

How do I find or identify community service opportunities that I am interested in?

The role of the Director of Community Service is to identify community service opportunities. However, using MobileServe and the [ample search engine links and resources found on the](#)

[community service webpage](#), students should be able to find appropriate service opportunities based on their interests and needs (all service organizations listed on our website are automatically pre-approved). Upon serving their hours, students are required to obtain approval from their direct supervisor immediately upon completing their service. Students may also submit a community service proposal via email for approval by the Director of Community Service.

Whom do I contact if I have questions about Campbell Hall's Community Service Model?

The contact person for any questions or concerns about community service is the Director of Community Service, Hannah Wenzel (WenzelH@campbellhall.org).