

Frequently Asked Questions About Community Service At Jackson Prep



Is Community Service Required at Jackson Prep?

Community Service hours are not required at Jackson Prep. Community Service is voluntary. However, we encourage our students, who have been blessed and gifted beyond measure, to serve out of their abundance. Community Service serves as an excellent “classroom without walls,” where important skills may be tested and honed; practical settings reinforce knowledge gained in daily school life at Prep. Finally, Community Service does matter to colleges. Recruiters love to see that student who took the initiative to serve, especially when that student delights in a particular setting. See the additional information labeled **“Preparing Your Community Service Record”**.

How Does a Student Get Involved in Community Service?

Students may have a particular interest and/or a favorite family charity where they may begin to serve. Opportunities are limitless in the community, and students are encouraged to take the lead and call a place that may interest them. Suggestions are offered on the Community Service page on the Jackson Prep Web site, although students are not limited to those suggestions. The school will also notify students of opportunities to serve through postings on the Junior High and Senior High Bulletins. These postings often are not school-led group opportunities but rather phone numbers, dates and times where

the student must show initiative to follow through and arrange his own transportation and schedule to serve. Opportunities are also posted outside the Community Service office in the Senior High building. The High School Service Club offers specific working groups and projects for students. Any Senior High (10-12 grade) may join High School Service Club as long as they agree to meet the requirements of serving 30 hours in the community during the school year.



How Do I Find My Student's Interest?

Is your student an athlete? Does he have a musical interest? Has he expressed a desire for vocation? Is there something he loves to do? Is he artistic? Does he love to build things? Is he good with technology? Can he organize things efficiently and with ease? Does he love to be helpful to others? Is he a good student who is proficient at explaining academic material? Does he have a heart for a particular age group? Does he love serving outdoors? These are just a few of many questions you could ask about your student as you study him to help him assess his gifts and abilities. Serving in a place where a student is gifted and interested will make for a better experience. Help him do what he loves; he will make a better volunteer. Anne Duncan, Director of Community Service, is always glad to talk personally with your student and help him determine his interests. E-mail her at aduncan@jacksonprep.net.



What About Community Service Records, Hours, and Awards?

Community Service records consist of **what your student has given** to the Director of Community Service. A record of a student's work should be recorded on the Community Service Logs which can be downloaded and printed off the Jackson Prep Web site. [Click here for a Community Service log.](#) These logs are due **August 27** (logging all late spring and summer work), **January 18, 2011** (logging all fall and holiday work), and **April 8, 2011** (logging all winter and early spring work). Awards are given in the spring based on information from the Community Service Log. **A student does not have to produce a log or have a community service record.** This is a **voluntary action** on his part, and the keeping of a record for him is purely another service offered to your student by Jackson Prep. Logs must be turned in **on time** to be considered for the Class Day and Honors Forum programs for the various grade levels. The awards are given as encouragement to those students who faithfully serve.



Award Levels

Senior High and Ninth Grade

30-59 hours

60-99 hours

100-199 hours

200 + hours

Junior High (7-8)

20-29 hours

30-49 hours

50-99 hours

100 + hours

Award Level

Bronze

Silver

Gold

Platinum



What does Jackson Prep “Count” As Community Service Hours?

For the Community Service awards at Honors Forums and Class Days, we ask that students submit hours of service for work done on campus (up to 5 hours), and in the **local** community. The work should be done in the Greater Metro Jackson Area. (Colleges want to see how acquainted a student is with his own local community needs.) Please do not submit work done in conjunction with membership requirements of another club on campus (exception Service Club) or organizations such as Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout projects or meetings, etc), or religious organizations (i.e. singing in the choir, teaching V.B.S., or teaching Sunday School. **Mission trips (non-local) will be counted for a total of 10 hours.** Summer camp work will generally be considered in the 10 hour status, although some exceptions may be made based on the community service mission of the camp.

How Does My Student Join High School Service Club?

Senior High Service Club is open to any student in the 10th-12th grades. A student must have a teacher and parent signature to submit his application. Applications may be obtained from the Director of Community Service. Senior High Service Club meets once a month. The following dates are scheduled for this year’s meetings. (Dates and location times may be subject to change.)

- Wednesday, September 8 (HMC)
- Wednesday, October 6 (Lyceum)
- Wednesday, November 17 (HMC)

- Wednesday, January 12 (HMC)
- Wednesday, February 9 (HMC)
- Wednesday, March 9 (HMC)
- Wednesday, April 13 (HMC)

A student must attend at least 4 meetings during the year to maintain his membership. A student must support a Service Club project with at least 15 hours of work during the year, and log an additional 15 hours of any type of work for a total of 30 hours of work. Service Club projects are presented in the club meetings and explained at that time. A variety of projects held at various times are presented to try to meet schedule needs of a diverse population of students.



What is the goal of Senior High Service Club?

High School Service Club exists to provide a “landing spot” for those students who desire to learn more about and give to their community. The projects in Service Club are designed to be learning opportunities. Community organizations become our partners in education and training of our students. By completing at least 15 hours of work in a particular interest area the student becomes more knowledgeable and is a better volunteer. Students in Service Club are encouraged to show initiative and leadership through faithful service and creative problem solving.

Questions? Please feel free to contact Anne Duncan at aduncan@jacksonprep.net