



**Evangelical Christian School Community Service Guidelines
Grades 6-12**

Community service is a part of the Bible class requirement for all ECS Upper School students. Students in grades 9-12 are required to turn in 10 hours of community service each quarter for a test grade. Test grades for 9-12 are 10% per hour. Students in grades 6-8 are required to turn in 5 hours of community service each quarter for a test grade. Test grades for 6-8 are 20% per hour.

Service projects must be served with a community or charitable organization (i.e. church, school, hospital, animal shelter, soup kitchen, etc.). Service hours performed during the summer may be used for the coming school year.

All community service hours completed by a high school student should be turned in to the Bible teacher. These additional hours, although they may not count for the Bible test grade, will be recorded on the student's official high school transcript.

The goal of requiring students to participate in community service is four-fold:

- To assist the student to learn to look for opportunities to reach out and share the love of Jesus through acts of service
- To help the student discover the joy of a caring and compassionate heart
- To motivate the student to serve their community
- To aid the student in building community service hours for their high school transcript which will benefit them when applying for college scholarships

Guidelines:

1. The service must be performed for a community or charitable organization.
2. The student cannot receive payment for this service.
3. No service projects may be completed during school hours.
4. Projects must be pre-approved by the Bible teacher. A project completed without pre-approval of the Bible teacher can be rejected without recourse.
5. At least 2 different projects will need to be completed to meet the requirements for the Bible test grade.
6. **Approved service** examples:
 - a. Church related activities that do not occur during regular service times (i.e. visitation, evangelism, cleaning, etc.) If there are two services, the student may attend one service and serve in the other (teacher's aid, video/sound tech, etc.)
 - b. Volunteer at a hospital, nursing home, orphanage, soup kitchen, or any charitable organization
 - c. Teacher's helper, before or after school
 - d. School related activities like mentoring, tutoring, assisting with sports programs or camps
 - e. Heart Association, Right to Life, Cancer Society, etc. walks/runs, or any fundraiser for a charitable cause
 - f. Mission's trip work hours that occur outside of school hours (must submit a written summary of the work done and the hours contributed)
 - g. Manual labor for any charitable organization (Habitat for Humanity)
7. **Unacceptable service** examples: Leadership trips, singing in choirs, attending events, baby sitting, chores for a neighbor, giving a friend a ride, involvement in the school musical, animal sitting, house sitting, tasks done for family, etc.

Due Dates are one week prior to the last day of each quarter. Bible teachers can answer any questions and are the final authority on what service is acceptable.