

Community Service Opportunities

Tohopekaliga High School

How do I document my volunteer hours?

- **Bright Futures Proposal:** Before beginning your volunteer hours, you will need to get your volunteer location **pre-approved**. You and a parent/guardian will need to complete and sign and date the Bright Futures Volunteer Service Work Plan. To get your work plan approved, submit it to your guidance counselor.
- **Bright Futures Log Form:** After your location is approved for community service, track your hours on the Bright Futures Volunteer Work Hours Log.
- **Community Service Location:** Each volunteer service location must have its own work plan to be pre-approved. Each volunteer service location must have its own log form and its own personal response essay.
- **Are other community service log forms acceptable?** The organization can document your community service on the organization's letterhead and include the volunteer service performed, when and where it occurred, the number of hours completed, and have it signed and dated by the supervisor, including his/her full name, email address, and phone number. If the community service location uses their own electronic time clock, you may submit a print-out of those hours.
- **Submitting Your Community Hours:** Ensure you have completed the reflection on the back of the log form. You and a parent/legal guardian must sign the necessary portions of the form. Submit to your assigned school counselor. As a precaution, take pictures of all volunteer forms that you submit.

What are the requirements for community service?

- Students must perform community service on their own time, which includes lunch breaks or after school.
- Fundraising for non-profit organizations or charities is acceptable.
- Service may be volunteered to the school or the community.
- Service may be performed for profit-making organizations **ONLY** if they are institutions like hospitals or nursing homes.
- Volunteer work for a religious or political organization will **ONLY** count as volunteer hours if, for example your church youth group helps with the Special Olympics or the political organization promotes non-partisan activities, such as voter registration.

What does not count towards community service?

- Service rendered as a prerequisite for employment.
- Service performed for a student's family, neighbors, or friends or for profit-making organizations.

- Attendance at self-improvement workshops, conferences, or competitions.
- Service performed as a result of disciplinary action taken by the school or courts.
- Participation in varsity or junior varsity athletics, or regularly scheduled band or chorus performances.
- Common activities such as acolyte, altar server, lay reader, church choir, and clerical work for religious organizations.
- Babysitting
- Any paid service
- Volunteer service work involving academic requirements for a class.

Background Checks and Applications

Volunteer service and programs may require background checks before approving volunteers for hospitals and clinics. Be aware of the necessary steps to become a volunteer. After background checks, volunteer sites may also require you to do a short orientation or training program. This process can take 2-4 weeks for approval.

You are not limited to this list of community service locations. However, you must get your volunteer location approved before beginning your volunteer hour.

High School Student Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Match

www.volunteermatch.org

Find the best volunteer opportunities in the Orlando area. You can get matched with people who are passionate about and committed to your cause, and who can help when and where you need them.

Teens United

<https://www.teensunited.org>

Teens United is a mission to build a national network of teen volunteers to provide contact-less, safe, and FREE home delivery of groceries, medicine, and other essential items to eligible citizens while keeping them safe at home.

Saint Cloud Community Pantry

Contact: 407-348-2370

The St. Cloud Pantry has available volunteer opportunities to assist with stocking and special events.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida

https://www.feedhopenow.org/site/SPageServer/?pagename=ways_involved_volunteer

Volunteer opportunities in Brevard and Volusia Counties.

You can become Virtual Volunteer by starting your own Virtual Food Drive

Contact: Betsy Dye, Digital Fundraising and Media Manager

Phone: 407-514-1010

Email: bdye@feedhopenow.org

A Gift for Teaching/Education Foundation

Contact: 407-348-2370

A Gift for Teaching is open after school and two Saturday's a month. Youth Volunteers may work at the store helping to stock shelves or assist teachers in making selections.

Bishop Grady Villas

Contact: 321-332-5211

Bishop Grady Villas is a home for adult individuals with learning disorders who cannot live independently on their own. Youth volunteers may do outside cleaning or yard work and inside cleaning in common areas or in the kitchen. They may also do interaction activities with the adult residents such as reading books or playing games.

City of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities Department

www.kissimmeeparks.org Contact: 407-518-2360 or 407-518-2501

The City's Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities department coordinates volunteer opportunities that include special events such as Fall Festival, Haunted House, Festival of Lights Parade, Sunshine Regional Chili Cookoff and the Easter Eggstravaganza. There is also a Volunteer In the Parks (V.I.P.) program where community members may join our staff and do various projects once every 4 months. Please browse the website for a list of opportunities in the City.

Community Vision

www.communityvision.org

Contact: 407-933-0870

Community Vision is an agency in Osceola County that coordinates many volunteer opportunities, including activities for youth. Please browse their website for a list of current activities that may be found in Osceola County.

Habitat for Humanity of Osceola

www.habitatosceola.org

Contact: 407-343-1900

Habitat for Humanity builds home for qualifying, needy families. Youth volunteer may do jobsite cleanup, clean windows, or swing a hammer. Age limit qualifications may limit some youth opportunities.

Healing Touch Therapeutic Riding Center

www.healingtouchrc.org

Contact: 407-405-7850

Email: healingtouchtherapeutic@yahoo.com

3090 Comanche Road, Saint Cloud, FL 34772

Healing Touch's vision is to assist every child and/or adult that can benefit from this remarkable therapy in a professional and safe equine environment. Volunteers are accepted beginning at age 14; volunteer application must be completed.

Help Now of Osceola, Inc.

www.helpnowshelter.org

Contact: 407-847-3260

1000 W. Emmett Street, Kissimmee, FL 34741

The agency provides a temporary safe shelter for survivors of domestic abuse.

To volunteer, a Volunteer Application must be completed: <https://www.helpnowshelter.org/become-a-volunteer>. You may contact evelynhj@helpnowshelter.org.

Junior Achievement/Osceola Bowl-A-Thon

www.orlando.ja.org

Contact: 407-847-2518

Junior Achievement has a Bowl-A-Thon once year to raise funds for the programs they bring into schools. Youth groups may participate by forming a team and collecting money donations. Please view their website for dates of the next Bowl-A-Thon.

Kissimmee Main Street

Contact: 407-846-4643

Kissimmee Main Street sponsors many activities in the downtown Kissimmee area throughout the year. They frequently need help with setting up and taking down. This may include tables and chairs, a stage, equipment or displays.

LGBT+ Center Orlando

Email: info@thecenterorlando.org **Contact: 407-228-8272**

946 N. Mills Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

Osceola Council on Aging

www.osceolagenerations.org

Contact: 407-846-8632

The Council on Aging offers a day site for senior citizens to gather. They have a Meals on Wheels programs which offers a meal for a senior citizen who may not be able to get out of their house and they have a pet care program where senior citizens may leave their pet for the day while they are away from home. Youth volunteers may offer help in a variety of areas at the Council on Aging.

Osceola County Historical Society Pioneer Village and Museum

www.osceolahistory.org

Contact: 407-396-8644

4155 W. Vine Street, Kissimmee

They are looking for volunteers for year-round special events and for general, daily duties also. They need Greeters, Tour Guides, Clerical Assistants, Archivists, Librarians, Historical Researchers, Writers, Technician, Photographers, Gardeners, Grounds Maintenance, and Summer Camp Helpers.

Osceola County Museum of Military History Contact: 407-507-3894

The Museum of Military History frequently needs youth volunteers to clean, categorize and inventory military memorabilia. The museum may also be able to assist youth groups who would like to do a home project a needy veteran. Projects may include a yard cleanup, planting, painting, or minor home repairs.

Poinciana Recreation Center Contact: 863-427-0900

The Poinciana Recreation Center frequently needs high school students to assist with youth and adult basketball games, movie nights, and other community events.

Relay for Life

www.relayforlife.org

Relay for Life is an annual event that benefits cancer patients. Youth groups or youth individuals can participate in an all-night long walk-a-thon to raise money through contributions and donations for the American Cancer Society. See their website for dates of the next Relay for Life event in your area.

SPCA of Central Florida

Contact: 407-248-1756

The SPCA is a no-kill animal shelter. They accept healthy pets and find them new, loving homes. Youth volunteers may participate in various presentations by the SCPA promoting pet awareness, may volunteer at the kennel and may adopt a new pet, with parent permission, of course!

St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce

www.stcloudflchamber.com

Contact: 407-892-3671

The St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce hosts many activities throughout the year. They may need youth volunteer to help set up and take down chairs and tables at various events or help with manning booths/tables at these events.

St. Cloud Little League

<http://www.eteamz.com/saintcloudll/> **Contact: Debbie Henderson 407-908-5835**

The St. Cloud Little League has both Fall and Spring Softball and Baseball and all-stars and tournaments are held during the summer so that means practices are held almost year-round. Youth volunteer opportunities may include assisting a team during games and at practices for their entire season, doing park or ballfield cleanup or working in the concession stand.

St. Cloud Main Street

<http://stcloudmainstreet.org>

Contact: Paula Stark 407-498-0008

St. Cloud Main Street sponsors many activities in the downtown St. Cloud area throughout the year. They frequently need help with setting up and taking down. This may include tables and chairs, a stage, equipment or displays.

**Boys & Girls Club of Central Florida
Kissimmee Branch**



2411 Dyer Blvd, Kissimmee, FL 34744
407-847-2833 www.bgccf.org

**Boys & Girls Club of Central Florida
BVL Branch**

501 Florida Parkway, Kissimmee, FL 34743
321-682-5910
Email: landerson@bgccf.org

Give Kids the World

210 South Bass Road, Kissimmee, FL 34746
407-396-1114 www.gktw.org

Osceola Arts

2411 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy
Kissimmee, FL 34744
407-846-6257
www.osceolaarts.org

Teen Court Program

2 Courthouse Square, Suite 3100
Kissimmee, FL 34741
407-742-2465

<http://www.ninthcircuit.org/about/divisions/juvenile-court/teen-court>

*For teenagers looking for volunteer hours.
Volunteer as a teen juror/teen attorney.*

Local Hospitals

Hospitals and clinics may be limited or may not be offering community service to high school students due to COVID-19.

Advent Health Kissimmee

Representative: Ashley Gomez Contact: 407-609-3965 or 407-303-6938
Email: Ashley.gomez@adventhealth.com
2450 N. Orange Blossom Trail, Kissimmee, FL 34744
*Volunteer Requirements, including a 100-hour requirement.

Osceola Regional Hospital

Representative: Elizabeth Galarza Contact: 407-518-3907
Email: Elizabeth.galarza@hcahealthcare.com
700 West Oak Street, Kissimmee, FL 34741

Dr. Phillips Hospital

Representative: Nicole Farrell Contact: 321-842-8868
Email: nicole.farrell@orlandohealth.com
9400 Turkey Lake Road, Orlando, FL 32819