

Ineligible Activities

The Ministry of Education and Training (Policy/Program Memorandum No.124A – April 27, 1999) has developed a list of activities that may not be chosen as community involvement activities and that are therefore ineligible activities. An ineligible activity is an activity that:

- is a requirement of a class or course in which the student is enrolled (e.g., co-operative education portion of a course, job shadowing, work experience);
- takes place during the time allotted for the instructional program on a school day. However, an activity that takes place during the student's lunch breaks or "spare" period is permissible;
- takes place in a logging or mining environment, if the student is under sixteen years of age;
- takes place in a factory, if the student is under fifteen years of age;
- takes place in a workplace other than a factory, if the student is under fourteen years of age and is not accompanied by an adult;
- would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace;
- involves the operation of a vehicle, power tools, or scaffolding;
- involves the administration of any type or form of medication or medical procedure to other persons;
- involves handling of substances classed as "designated substances" under the Occupational Health and Safety Act;
- requires the knowledge of a trades person whose trade is regulated by the provincial government;
- involves banking or the handling of securities, or the handling of jewelry, works of art, antiques, or other valuables;
- consists of duties performed in the home (i.e. daily chores) or personal recreational activities;
- involves a court-ordered program (e.g., community service program for young offenders, probationary program).

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THE CLOCK IS TICKING

DID YOU KNOW STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE TO GRADUATE?

PARENT GUIDE



General Information & Purpose

As stated in the Ontario Secondary Schools, Grade 9 to 12: Program and Diploma Requirements, 1999 (OSS) every student who begins secondary school during or after the 1999-2000 school year must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

We envision students who are formed in the Catholic faith, pursue academic excellence, demonstrate a global perspective and community responsibility.

Guidelines

- As of July 2011, a student can begin to fulfill this requirement in the summer prior to grade 9.
 - The activities must not be part of a credit course.
 - The activities must be unpaid.
 - “Volunteer” is not necessarily “community service”.
 - Students cannot volunteer at a place of business by working for “free”.
 - Students must submit updated records of their completed activities as they are
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Getting Started

- Here are some suggestions: Spend time with your teen going through the list of eligible and ineligible activities in this brochure—find out what your teen might be interested in.
 - Visit www.40hours.ca and www.volunteertoronto.ca for opportunities in the GTA.
 - Look at other resources—a good place to start is the Student Community Involvement booklet, which can be viewed at www.tcdsb.org
 - [Students](#)
 - [Community Involvement](#)
 - [Community Involvement Information](#)
 - [Community Involvement Activity Form](#)
 - Students/parents can print more Activity Forms as needed. Students are encouraged to make a photocopy of the form before submitting it to the school.
 - “Students must submit updated records of their activities as they are completed.”
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It is highly recommended that all students begin their 40 hours of community service as early as possible.

Eligible Activities

The following list provides examples of community involvement activities that, if within the intent and spirit of the applicable guidelines and ethical standards, are suitable for selection:

- **Fundraising** – includes canvassing and assisting with the organization of events for the benefit of the community, such as walkathons, celebrity games, gala events, bazaars, etc.
- **Sports/recreation** – includes coaching and helping to organize tournaments, sporting events, track meets and summer games or volunteering as a leisure buddy or pool assistant
- **Community Events** – includes helping to organize winter carnivals, parades, and summer fairs
- **Community Projects** – includes participating in organized food drives; or support services for community groups
- **Environmental Projects** – includes participating in community clean-up, flower/tree planting, recycling, and general beautification projects and activities
- **Volunteer Work with Seniors** – includes assisting in a seniors’ residence, e.g. – serving snacks, helping with activities, portering, or participating in visiting and reading programs
- **Committee Work** – includes participation on advisory boards, neighbourhood associations, and regional associations
- **Religious Activities** – includes participation as a volunteer in catechism classes, children’s liturgy programs, and special events
- **Youth Programs** – includes volunteer assistance in the operation of youth programs such as Scouts, Guides, recreation centre activities, breakfast programs, March Break programs, Leaders-in-Training, summer playground activities, and camps
- **Office/Clerical Work** – includes volunteer activity in reception, computer work, and mailing for individuals or groups providing charitable or general community benefit
- **Work with Animals** – includes volunteer involvement with animal care or volunteer assistance at a local zoo or petting farm
- **Arts and Culture** – includes volunteer assistance at a gallery, performing arts production or program, or in a community library program
- **Activities for Individuals** – includes any volunteer activity that assists someone who requires the assistance with shopping, tutoring, light snow removal (no use of snowblower), housekeeping, writing letters or transcribing, or involves hospital visitation, voluntary involvement with chronic care, or service as a volunteer reading buddy
- **School Community Service** – may include service within the school community that provides benefit to others that takes place outside the regular school day.