

PLEASE REVIEW GUIDELINES FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR AS THEY HAVE CHANGED!

Black and Gold Community Service Cord Guidelines 2016-2017

Students may earn a Black and Gold Cord to be worn on their gown at graduation, which indicates significant hours of community volunteer service during their enrollment at Vinton-Shellsburg High School. From the time they enter high school until they graduate, students provide **100 hours of service** to earn a cord. Students are encouraged to average about 25 hours of service per year. Opportunities will be posted in the announcements and on the VSHS website. Accrued hours are documented, tracked and tabulated.

Class of 2017 - 100 hrs

Class of 2018 - 100 hrs

Class of 2019 - 100 hrs

Class of 2020 - 100 hrs

What is Volunteerism?

Volunteerism may be defined as contributing one's time or talents for charitable, educational, social, political, or other worthwhile purposes, usually in one's community, freely and without regard for compensation. Americans have shaped their nation by their voluntary efforts: providing services, organizing political action, caring for the poor, reaching out to the disadvantaged, providing education, ensuring equality and civil rights for all citizens, and working for change.

Effective May 28, 2016 - students must have prior approval from Mr. Kingsbury or Mr. Islas before performing Black & Gold hours. If the volunteer work that you want to do is not listed on the High School Black & Gold hours link, you must get prior approval. Please email matt.kingsbury@vscsd.org or tony.islas@vscsd.org to check if the opportunity qualifies before assuming it does. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Documentation:

- Documentation will include Completed Form 1 and if the volunteer is performing recurring work Form 1 will be accompanied by Form 2. Hours must be signed and documented by a supervisor or they will not be accepted
- Parents should **NOT** sign documentation unless previously arranged

What Counts:

- Any service performed in the V-S Community School District as listed in the opportunities sheet
- Church events: volunteer work for Mission Service trips, assisting with Vacation Bible School, and providing child care for evening religious ed classes.
- Volunteer work done during scouting
- Volunteer work done for 4-H or other non-school club
- Special events on school premises sponsored by local charities or businesses (examples:

blood drives, KIWANIS, Lion Club, Hospice, etc.) with previous approval.

- Staff supervised voluntary tutoring of other students for which credit is not earned or any other staff supervised voluntary service performed as a member of school. WHEN SUCH SERVICE IS ARRANGED BETWEEN THE SUPERVISOR AND APPROVED WITH WRITTEN AGREEMENT.

What Does NOT Count

- Sunday morning activities performed during church services (singing in the choir, acolyting, ushering, greeting, Sunday School, nursery)
- Court-ordered community service hours
- Practicum/internships
- Job Shadows
- Any work done for credit at school
- Work done during schools hours unless previously approved
- Any work done for school activities in which the student may earn a letter, ribbon, medal, certificate, or any other award for a class, activity, club or team.
- No unsupervised hours. No undocumented work.
- Work for relatives (examples: raking leaves for grandparents, babysitting for sister, etc.)
- Work done for individuals such as neighbors (raking leaves, etc) unless done through an established community group
- Any work done for pay. (Detasseling to raise funds for organization.)
- Work done as a part extra or co-curricular activity that benefits that group or program. (Field prep, prom or post-prom decorating)

Recording of Time

- Sheets turned in MUST list exact clock times of service (example – 3:30-5:30 p.m.). NO ESTIMATED, UNDOCUMENTED “BUNDLES” OF HOURS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Form 1 should be filled out for each volunteer opportunity followed with Form 2 ONLY if it is reoccurring work done for the same sponsors.

Record Sheet Due Dates

1 year = Start: First day after school is released. End: The last day of school the following year.

To count for 2016-2017 dates accepted will start: May 28, 2016 to May 25th 2017. (Pending snow days.) All record sheets must be turned in for current school year to receive credit. No previous year forms will be accepted.

Final Decisions

- Eligibility for hours is the final responsibility of the teacher sponsor, volunteer work sponsor and student. (See change effective May 28, 2016)