

BTHS Community Service Hours Guidelines

Community service hours are required for all Bright Futures Scholarship Awards – Florida academic Scholars, Florida Medallion Scholars and Gold Seal Vocational Scholars: 100, 75 and 30 hours respectively. You may begin logging your hours the summer before your freshman year. **Community service hours must be documented by a verification letter that is on letterhead of the place where the hours were served, the number of hours earned, a description of the volunteer work as well as a contact name and telephone number that can be used to verify the hours. Parent and student signatures are also required on the bottom of each letter.**

Below are some examples of hours that are considered Community Service:

- Service to a government agency
- Service to a non-profit local, national or international organization
 - When training meetings are required prior to the actual service, a student can receive credit for up to 2 hours of training in addition to the hours of service.
- Service to a school or school organization – in which credit is not being awarded
- Service to a religious organization
- Participation in non-profit Fine Arts performances or exhibitions
 - When hours are being earned in which rehearsal time is required, a student can receive credit for up to 3 hours of rehearsal time for every hour of performance time.
- VPS hours provided credit is not being awarded
- Non-paid internships at a non-profit organization with prior school official approval
- Career Academy non-paid internships

Below are some examples of hours that are **not** considered eligible for Community Service:

- Family related activities
- Hours in which students are compensated either monetarily or materially
- School related activities that have required attendance and /or are a part of the course requirement to earn credit
- Attendance at meetings which are required as part of memberships in a club or organization
- Activities that cannot be documented on business letterhead
- Volunteer services for – profit businesses

**Community service hours are not a graduation requirement.*