DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Volunteer Websites

Explore the following websites for volunteer opportunities:

Serve DC—The Mayor's Office on Volunteering

www.serve.dc.gov

The Corporation for National and Community Service

www.serve.gov

Volunteer.gov

www.volunteer.gov/results.cfm

Volunteer Match

www.volunteermatch.org

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.
—Margaret Mead

District of Columbia Public Schools
1200 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 442-5885
Fax: (202) 442-5026
Website: www.dcps.dc.gov

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Student Guide to Selecting Your Community Service Site

2015-2016

Volunteer Site Examples

Share Our Strength

Organize and execute a bake sale or other projects to raise

1730 M St NW Suite 700 ·Washington DC
Phone: (800) 761-4227
Website: http://
actioncenter.nokidhungry.org/states/
view?lg=DC
Email: nokidhungry2@strength.org

So Others Might Eat (SOME)

Prepare and serve food to the hungry and those in need.

71 O Street NW · Washington DC
Website: www.some.org/volunteer/
Phone: (202) 787-8806

Higher Achievement

Help close the opportunity gap for middle school youth

317 8th St NE Washington DC
Website: www.higherachievement.org/
volunteer
Phone: (202) 544-3633

Sasha Bruce Youthwork

Have a powerful and positive impact on the lives of young

741 8th St SE · Washington DC
Website: http://sashabruce.org/how-to-
help/volunteer/
Phone: (202) 675-9340

DC Public Library

Help out at your local library.

901 G St NW Washington DC
Website: http://dclibrary.org/
volunteer#third
Phone: (202) 741-5803
Email: libraryvolunteers@dc.gov

Casey Trees

Volunteer through tree planting, tree care, and advocacy.

3030 12th St NE · Washington DC
Website: http://caseytrees.org/get-
involved/volunteer/
Phone: (202) 349-1907

Kids Enjoy Exercise Now (KEEN)

Provides free recreational opportunities to children and

PO BOX 341590 · Bethesda MD
Website: http://
www.keengreaterdc.org/volunteers
Phone: (301) 770-3200

Howard University Hospital

Help as a candy striper or other areas at the hospital.

2041 Georgia Ave · Washington DC
Website: http://huhealthcare.com/
community/community-services
Phone: (202) 865-4238

Volunteer Site Examples

FOOD · CLOTHING · HOMELESS

Martha's Table

Volunteers are critical to the success of Martha's Table. Volunteers range in age from elementary students to retirees.

2114 14th Street NW Washington D.C.
Phone: 202-328-6608 ext. 212
Website: www.marthastable.org /volunteer/
Email: volunteer@marthastable.org

TUTORING

Boys and Girls Clubs

Help boys and girls build confidence, develop character and acquire skills.

4103 Benning Road NE · Washington DC
Website: www.bgcgw.org/volunteer/
Phone: (202) 540-2300

RESOURCES

Advocates for Justice and Education

Help out at the parent training and information center. (16+)

1012 Pennsylvania Ave SE Washington DC
Website: www.aje-dc.org
Phone: (202) 678-8060

HEALTH

Green America

Help further Green America's mission of using economic power to help

1612 K St NW · Washington DC
Website: http://www.greenamerica.org/supportus/volunteer.cfm
Phone: (800) 584-7336

Table of Contents

DCPS Community Service Requirement

The DCPS community service requirement states:

All students must complete at least 100 hours of community service in order to obtain a high school diploma from DCPS. There is no maximum. In order to stay on track for graduation each student should complete at least 25 hours per year:

Grade Level	End of Year Total
9th Grade	25 hours minimum
10th grade	50 hours minimum
11th grade	75 hours minimum
12th grade	100 hours minimum

This guide will help you understand the requirement and make the most of your volunteering experience. You will not graduate unless you complete 100 volunteer hours. However, these hours can be fulfilling and meaningful and help further your college and career aspirations. Every employer and college admissions counselor will see the value in your volunteer hours, and so will you!

Let's start by clarifying the requirement itself:

All community service hours must be completed through a *501(c) (3) non-profit organization* or a *federal, state or local government agency.*

501(c) (3) organizations are tax-exempt charitable organizations that apply for and meet requirements set by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). A more comprehensive list of 501(c)(3) organizations can be found at www2.guidestar.org or on pages 12-15 of this student guide.

Examples include:
- American Red Cross
- DC Habitat for Humanity
- Washington Humane Society

Volunteer Site Examples

Food and Friends
Prepares packages and delivers meals and groceries to people living with HIV/

219 Riggs Road, NE ·Washington DC
Website: http://www.foodandfriends.org/site/pp.asp?c=ckLSI8NNIdJ2G&b=8486281
Phone: (202) 269-2277

Metro Teen AIDS
Work in the community as an AIDS educator or assist in community outreach. (16+)

651 Pennsylvania Ave. SE ·WDC
Website: http://metroteenaids.org/site/f-a-q/
Phone: (202) 543-8246

National Aquarium (16+)
Interact with guests through exhibit interpretation and educational carts.

1401 Constitution Ave · Washington DC
Website: http://www.aqua.org/contribute/volunteer
Phone: (202) 482-2825

Washington Humane Society
Helps thousands of the District's homeless, abused,

7319 Georgia Ave NW ·Washington DC
Website: http://support.washhumane.org/site/PageServer
Phone: (202) 723-2071 ext. 133

IONA Senior Services
Support people as they experience the challenges and opportunities of aging.

4125 Albemarle St NW ·Washington DC
Website: http://www.iona.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer-your-time.html
Phone: (202) 895-9425

Seabury Resources for Aging
Help provide basic home maintenance services to older

4201 Butterworth Place NW ·WDC
Website: http://www.seaburyresources.org/volunteer/index.html
Phone: (202) 414-6315

Habitat for Humanity DC
Eliminate poverty housing and homelessness in the nation's capital. (16+)

2115 Ward Ct NW, Suite 100 · Washington DC
Website: www.dchabitat.org/volunteer/
Phone: (202) 882-4600

National Mall–National Park Service
Volunteer at the National

3545 Williamsburg Ln NW Washington DC
Website: http://www.nps.gov/getinvolved/volunteer.htm
Phone: (202) 426-6841

Volunteer Site Examples

Community Education Group
Advocate and educate the DC community on the HIV/AIDS problems affecting the city.

AIDS/HIV SERVICES
ADVOCACY AND
AWARENESS

3233 Pennsylvania Ave SE ·Washington DC
Website: http://communityeducationgroup.org/index.php/hiv_in_dc/take_action/
Phone: (202) 543-2376.

Lucky Dog Animal Rescue
Help save the lives of homeless animals and educate the community.
(12+ with parent, 18+ without)

ANIMAL CARE ·
ANIMAL RESCUE

3636 Winfield Lane NW · Washington DC
Website: http://www.luckydoganimalrescue.org/volunteer
Phone: (202) 741-5428.

Armed Forces Retirement Home

Help veterans who are residing in this

3700 N. Capitol St NW · Washington DC
Website: https://www.afrh.gov/afrh/team/vol/volunteer.htm
Phone: (202) 541-7627 9425

ELDER CARE ·
SENIOR CITIZENS

DC Department of Parks and Recreation

Provides quality urban recreation and leisure services for residents and visitors to the District of Columbia.

1250 U Street NW ·Washington DC
Website: www.dpr.dc.gov
Phone: (202) 671-0129

ENVIRONMENT·
HABITAT

Federal, state and local government agencies are any agencies that provide some regulatory service or enforcement and are responsible for the oversight and administration of a specific government function. A comprehensive list of federal, state and local organizations can be found at the following websites:

Federal Government Agencies
http://www.usa.gov/Agencies/Federal/All Agencies/index.shtml.

Examples include:
- United States Department of Justice
- United States Department of Agriculture
- White House

State/Local Government Agencies
http://dc.gov/directory

Examples include:
- Executive Office of the Mayor, District of Columbia
- Metropolitan Police Department, District of Columbia
- DC Parks and Recreation, District of Columbia

Types of Service: there are three types of service: direct service, indirect service, and advocacy.
1. **Direct Service:** Includes tutoring, mentoring, and other forms of face-to face contact between students and recipients of the project
2. **Indirect Service:** Includes fundraising, collections, and other forms of support provided by students for others engaged in direct service
3. **Advocacy:** Includes letter-writing, public relations efforts, and other means of trying to influence citizens and policymakers to change their behavior.

Steps to Volunteer

1. **Find your volunteer area of interest**
   - Think about your interests and desired career path and choose a volunteer site that best fits YOU.
     - Example: If you love animals and want to be a veterinarian, choose a volunteer site where you can work with animals.
   - Use available resources to research various options.
   - Have back ups sites identified!
   - Remember that in addition to the graduation requirement, this is a great opportunity for YOU and YOUR COMMUNITY.

2. **Contact your desired volunteer sites**
   - Let the sites know your interest in volunteering and ask them about the next steps in becoming a volunteer.
   - Do not get discouraged if you do not hear a response or if the site cannot accommodate you. Remember, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again!

3. **Complete pre-volunteering requirements**
   - For example, if you need to fill out a volunteer application and a background check, be sure to have these done BEFORE your first day.
   - Identify an on-site supervisor who can track and record your hours
   - Get a DCPS Community Service: Project and Hours form from your school counselor or community service coordinator.

4. **Head to your site!**
   - Be on time to volunteer, with a smile on your face and a positive attitude.
   - Remember that you are representing yourself, your school, and DC Public Schools as a whole, so show them how awesome we are!

5. **Record your hours**
   - Record your hours on the DCPS Community Service: Project and Hours form. Make sure your supervisor signs it.
   - Bring your complete community service record sheet to your high school counselor or community service coordinator.

Volunteer Sites – Explore at least two or more of the sites below:

District Government	DC Government Service Opportunities	http://serve.dc.gov/page/dc-govt-volunteer-opportunities
Federal Government	Serve.gov	www.serve.gov
Non Profit	Hands On	http://www.handsondc.org/
National Service	Volunteer.gov	www.volunteer.gov/gov

The following opportunities look interesting to me:
- ❑ 501 (c) (3) _____
- ❑ Federal Agency _____
- ❑ District Government _____

The opportunity that I will follow up with will be:

_____

Is an application required?   ❑ yes   ❑ no

Is an orientation required?   ❑ yes   ❑ no

If Yes: Where? _____ When? _____

First day of volunteering: _____

Location: _____

Contact your school counselor or community service coordinator for additional information and resources.

My Service Plan

Use the guide below to develop your service plan.

Number of Hours to Date: _____

Number of Hours Needed: _____

Volunteer Availability: How many hours do you have available each week?

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
8–11 a.m.							
12–4 p.m.							
5–8 p.m.							

I can complete _____ hours per week for _____ weeks to complete my requirement.

I am interested in working with (check all that apply):

- ❑ Adults
- ❑ Animals
- ❑ Art
- ❑ Babies
- ❑ Books/Reading
- ❑ Children
- ❑ Computers
- ❑ Nature
- ❑ Music
- ❑ Seniors/Elders
- ❑ Sports
- ❑ Other:_____

These volunteer opportunities interest me (check all that apply):

- ❑ AIDS/HIV Services/Advocacy and Awareness
- ❑ Animal Care/Animal Rescue
- ❑ Food-Clothing/Housing Assistance/Homeless Awareness
- ❑ Elder care/Senior Citizens
- ❑ Environment/Habitat
- ❑ Immigration/Migrant
- ❑ Diversity Awareness
- ❑ Tutoring/Education
- ❑ Civic Engagement
- ❑ Safety
- ❑ Special Needs/Disabled
- ❑ Military Families Support
- ❑ Government and Policy
- ❑ Natural Resources
- ❑ Neighborhood Enhancement
- ❑ Performance Art

How Community Service Can Help You

Asha Fears, a 20 year-old Banneker graduate from 2010, spent her high school years volunteering at many different organizations. She did everything from tutoring to helping at Brain-Food, an after-school program that teaches students how to cook. After Asha's mother had to send her cat to a shelter during her junior year, Asha realized that her passion was working with animals.

Asha began volunteering at the Washington Humane Society and it was not long before staff members started to notice her passion and dedication. While she worked alongside the veterinary technicians at the Humane Society, Asha was given the opportunity to learn how to immunize animals, a skill that she otherwise would not have mastered until much later in her veterinary studies.

Today Asha is working as a veterinary technician (the youngest in her office by 7 years!) and is studying to be a veterinarian. Asha says that without her community service, she wouldn't be where she is today . "I'm already on my career path through my volunteering."

Asha's advice to young volunteers? "You're not getting paid, but you're networking and getting experience which will lead to getting paid." Community service is something that looks good on any resume or college application and is something that can benefit every high school student.

DCPS Beautification Day—August
Purpose: Beautification Day is a city-wide event that provides an opportunity for everyone in the city to help improve our schools by volunteering their time for a variety of clean-up projects.
Organized by: DC Public Schools
Website: http://serve.dc.gov/service/dcps-beautification-day

National Day of Service and Remembrance 9/11—September 11
Purpose: The September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance is a forward-looking charitable service day as a way to honor 9/11 victims, survivors, and others who rose up in service in response to the attacks.
Organized by: Corporation for National and Community Service
Website: www.serve.gov/sept11.asp

National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week—November
Purpose: A nationwide effort to bring greater awareness to the problems of hunger and homelessness.
Organized by: National Coalition for the Homeless
Website: http://nationalhomeless.org/taking-action/volunteer/

World AIDS Day—December 1
Purpose: The World Health Organization established World AIDS Day in 1988. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day. It is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died.
Organized by: World Heath Organization/World AIDS Campaign
Website: worldaidscampaign.org

Martin Luther King Day of Service—January MLK Day
Purpose: To remind us of the importance of keeping Dr. King's legacy of service alive and challenge us to make service a part of our everyday lives.
Organized by: Corporation for National and Community Service
Website: www.mlkday.gov

Read Across America—March 2 — Dr. Seuss Birthday
Purpose: NEA's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program to bring reading excitement to children of all ages.
Organized by: National Education Association
Website: www.nea.org/grants/886.htm

Earth Day—April
Purpose: Works to broaden, diversify, and mobilize the environmental movement.
Organized by: Earth Day Network
Website: http://action.earthday.net/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=5645

Global Youth Service Day—April
Purpose: An annual campaign that celebrates and mobilizes the millions of children and youth who improve their communities each day of the year through service and service-learning.
Organized by: Youth Service America
Website: www.gysd.org

Work-A-Thon—Late May
Purpose: Join thousands of other volunteers from all parts of DC as we work together to improve DC Public Schools!
Organized by: Hands On DC
Website: www.handsondc.org

To find out additional information regarding Seasons of Service days through the year visit the Serve DC Season of Service website at:
http://serve.dc.gov/page/seasons-service-days