

ALL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS/APs: Social Sciences - Community Service Implementation Guidelines Updates

Category: For Your Information

Audience: Principals/APs (Senior High)

Due Date: n/a

Meeting Date: n/a

Attachment(s): [Community Service Implementation Guidelines - Service Learning- November 2014.pdf](#)

To provide updates to the Community Service Implementation Guidelines document which highlights procedures for meeting the graduation requirement associated with community service.

The Department of Social Sciences has updated the Community Service Implementation Guidelines document to reflect current legislation and requirements outlined in the Student Progression Plan.

Following are the most important updates to the document:

- A community service project, which is described in Community Service Implementation Guidelines, incorporated by reference in this School Board Policy 5410 Student Progression Plan, is required for graduation for those students who select the four-year, 24-credit standard program. The school must approve and verify that the student's community service complies with the requirements specified in the Community Service Implementation Guidelines. In the implementation of the project, the student is to identify a social problem of interest, develop a plan for personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or presentations, evaluate and reflect upon the experience. No specific numbers of hours are required for graduation. A community service project is not a graduation requirement for students enrolled in the 18-credit ACCEL option. However, it should be noted that the [Florida Bright Futures Scholarship](#) Program requires community service hours as part of the eligibility requirements for the Florida Academic Scholars Award, the Florida Medallion Scholars Award and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award. Additionally, students should seek advisement regarding community service requirements for certain diploma options, such as the Superintendent's Diploma of Distinction, AICE, and IB, from their school counselor.
- In the implementation of the project, the student is to identify a social problem of interest, develop a plan for personal involvement in addressing the problem, and, through papers or presentations, evaluate and reflect upon the experience.
- No specific numbers of hours are required for graduation.
- **Please note: for specific community service requirements for other programs such as AICE or IB, please see your school counselor.**
- **Approval of Student Community Service projects is an individual school's responsibility.**
- Please note the following important regulations regarding approving student projects to meet the community service graduation requirement:
- Community serviced hours must be performed solely by the student and may be performed at any of the following: (1) a non-profit organization, (2) a government agency, (3) a school, (4) a retirement organization or home, or (5) for a disabled or elderly individual in need of assistance. **Students may not receive community service hours for work on an individual's political campaign or for volunteering in a relative's business and may not receive any compensation such as money, gifts or other benefits for their service.** The school must approve and verify that the student's community service complies with these requirements.
- Attached to this briefing is the complete Community Service Implementation Guidelines document. The document may also be downloaded from the Department of Social Sciences' website: <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net>, see the "Community Service" section on the left-hand side of the page.
- If you have questions or need additional information, please email Mr. Robert C. Brazofsky, Executive Director, Department of Social Sciences, rbrazofsky@dadeschools.net, or see the contact number below.

Contact: Mr. Robert Brazofsky (305-995-1982)

Department: Department of Social Sciences