DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions about Community Service for Providers

Q: *How can my company/organization become a community service provider?*

A: Companies and organizations can become community service providers if they are a 501(c)(3) company, organization, school, federal agency, or local agency. Please contact DCPS.Counseling@k12.dc.gov to discuss logistics for all community service opportunities.

Q: *Who can provide supervision from my company/organization?*

A: An adult from your company/organization can provide on-site supervision. The on-site supervisor must verify student community service hours by completing community service hour paperwork. The on-site supervisor cannot be the student's parent or relative.

Q: *What are the requirements for my company/organization to grant community service hours?*

A: The requirements for any company/organization to grant community service hours are as follows:
- The community service is a non-paying voluntary service for the benefit of the community.
- The services performed by the student volunteer do not replace services performed by paid workers.
- The service is unrelated to the company's usual business and participation does not bring direct economic benefit to the company.
- People receiving the service do not pay for the service.
- The service does not involve door-to-door canvassing.
- The community service must not allow discrimination, harassment, or exclusion of any kind.

Q: *How many hours of community service can my company/organization grant?*

A: Students can earn up to 8 hours of community service in a 24-hour period. There is no maximum number of hours a company or organization can award overall.

Q: *What types of community service can my company/organization offer?*

A: Students may complete community service that falls into these three categories:
1. **Direct Service**: face-to-face contact between DCPS students and beneficiaries of the community service
2. **Indirect Service**: support provided by students on issues related to the community, including fundraising, collections, and providing technical assistance.

3. **Advocacy**: students participate in tasks to influence change in their community, including letter writing and presenting before public officials. Advocacy tasks must remain non-partisan in nature.

Q: *Can my company/organization automatically provide community service hours to students?*

A: Companies and organizations must contact the DCPS Counseling team to receive approval for each community service opportunity each year. Please email us at DCPS.Counseling@k12.dc.gov.