

CSA Qualifying Service Hours Guidelines

EXAMPLES OF QUALIFYING SERVICE HOURS:

PARISH

- Being an Altar Server or Lector (altar serving should only take 1-2 hours maximum, make note on Service Record Template for a special Mass)
- Stuffing newsletters or helping in the office
- Cleaning, picking up trash in the parking lot, helping with maintenance, painting projects
- Choir (no rehearsals or travel time)
- Vacation Bible School leader/counselor (no overnight hours)
- Babysitting during Mass when you attend a different Mass

SCHOOL (excluding class time)

- Helping to set up and clean classrooms (during summer or before/after class)
- Organizing the library
- Student council (activities and events – no meetings)
- Choir performances (no rehearsals or travel time)
- Tutoring other students (before or after school)
- School crossing guard
- Raising/lowering flag
- Starting a service club (ask a teacher or two to sponsor)
- Fall Festival (selling tickets, set up, clean up, face-painting)

COMMUNITY (no paid babysitting or babysitting family)

- Serving food or boxing food at shelters or pantries/banks
- Starting a drive for things like coats, canned food or school supplies (Operation Gratitude)
- Starting a project of your own for a cause – examples from past recipients include knitting prayer shawls for cancer patients and rescue/placement services for pets
- Organizing a group service project (ask for parents to volunteer to drive a carload of peers to volunteer site)
- Write letters and package care boxes to the active military (Packages from Home)
- Helping your elderly neighbor with yardwork, easy fix-it or painting projects, housecleaning
- Reading to the blind (SAAVI), young children or seniors
- Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts (service projects only)
- Volunteering at the public library
- Helping at other schools (public or Catholic)
- Visiting the elderly at assisted living facilities
- Nun Run or charity walks (walking or volunteering)

EXAMPLES OF NON-QUALIFYING SERVICE HOURS:

- Meetings
- Travel time
- Rehearsals and practices
- Scouting outings do not count (unless it is a group service project)
- Fundraising, in which proceeds benefit the applicant, applicant's family, or a for-profit organization

*Performances only count if the event benefits the elderly, sick, disabled, or a nonprofit organization (including church and school).