



ECHS Community Service Guidelines

Community service refers to service a person performs for the benefit of his or her community. It is organized, unpaid work intended to benefit the good of a community.

ECHS believes community service enhances character, builds perspective, and develops career-related skills. Community service is also an important factor considered in many college admission decisions and scholarship awards. ECHS, therefore, expects students to complete at least four hours of community service per semester and encourages students to exceed minimum requirements.

In order for hours to satisfy ECHS requirements, a service activity must benefit those outside a student's own home, school, or church. Although other service activities that fall outside these guidelines may be reported on college and scholarship applications, the purpose of the ECHS community service requirement is to promote student involvement in service beyond everyday environs.

Students who need assistance finding community service opportunities are encouraged to consider the following organizations:

- Palomar Hospital
- Retirement Homes
- Food Banks
- Elementary Schools
- YMCA
- Military Outreach Ministries

Additional opportunities are posted in Charter Notes and listed on the Escondido Education Compact website (www.educationcompact.org).

Students may not receive community service credit for the following types of activities:

- Neighbor-oriented work
- Babysitting
- Moving people
- Chores for elderly neighbor
- Theater performance
- Worship team/praise band

Note: Credit will not be given if the student misses school to perform community service.

Mission Trip Guidelines:

Many local churches offer mission trips during the holidays. Participating students may only report a maximum of five hours per day. Time spent flying, driving, on lunch break, or socializing cannot be included in reported hours.

In order to receive credit for community service, students must submit a completed Community Service Record Form to the ECHS main office. Completed forms must include a supervisor's signature and contact phone number. A parent signing as a supervisor is only acceptable in rare cases.