This information is for Current NHS Members only.

Frequently Asked Questions about Service & Tutoring Requirements

How Do I submit my service Hours? Service Hours can be submitted using this Community Service Hours Link . It is the students' responsibility to make sure you have select "NHS". Selecting the incorrect organization will not count toward your NHS hours.

How many hours of Community Service do I have to complete as a member NHS?
Ten each semester

Do all the hours have to be at NHS sponsored community activities?
No. You can volunteer at any non-profit organization at any time during the semester.

Can I use my Key Club (or other club/sport) hours for NHS?
No. This is “double dipping.” NHS hours are above and beyond any hours you’re required to do for other clubs or sports.

Do meetings count as community service hours?
No. Attending NHS meetings expected of members. Community service hours are above and beyond and should be beneficial to the greater good of the community.

Which organizations can I volunteer for?
Several opportunities are presented at NHS meetings. In addition, you can volunteer for any non-profit organization, or any organization that serves the environment, children, elderly, infirm, or needy. Community service is different from volunteering. Volunteering for neighbors, in a family business, or a friend’s business is NOT community service. Go to www.volunteermatch.org for ideas!

Does working in my church nursery (or teaching Sunday school) count as community service for NHS?
No. As a member of the church, you are expected to serve the church. Counting these hours as community service for NHS is not permitted, for the same reason that Key Club & other club/sport hours are not permitted.

What if my church works at a soup kitchen (homeless shelter/missions trip/program to benefit the needy)? Do those hours count?
Yes. You can earn NHS community service hours for the time spent working for those in need. Hours spent traveling or sleeping while on a trip do not count.

Does volunteering for a sport or club count as community service?
Yes, as long as you're not a member of that club or on that team. Example: you go to the campus clean up sponsored by Ecology Club on a Saturday – those hours count as long as you're not in the Ecology Club.

What kind of paperwork do I need to prove I've done my hours?
You will need to fill out the NHS Service Hours Form is linked above, or from the school website. You will need the name and phone number of the adult or supervisor for your volunteer event. Only an adult who is not your family member may verify your hours.

How do I turn my hours in for NHS credit? Will I also have to turn them in to the office for Bright Futures credit?
At the end of each semester, your documentation of hours is due and will be verified by the advisor and club officers.

Do I get hours for Locks of Love or another hair donation? If so, how many?
For NHS we will give you one hour. This is because you have not really given up your time while your hair grows. It's a wonderful gift, but the NHS advisors feel you should be working for these 10 hours, not just letting your hair grow.

Who can review my community service hours if I'm not sure I've done them right?

Start with asking questions at meetings. Many people may have the same questions you have. Next, see an officer. After that, see an advisor.

Does tutoring at the middle school count? Yes. You are helping the needy, so tutoring hours count as community service. See more about tutoring below.

I did a lot of volunteering over the summer. Can I count these hours as community service hours?
Yes, but only for the 10 first semester hours. You can do 10 hours over Winter Break to count for the 10 second semester hours. NHS wants to encourage a life-long spirit of volunteering. That's why we spread the requirements out over both semesters.

Penalties

What happens if I do not turn in my required NHS hours on time?
If you do not turn in your first semester hours on time, you will be penalized one additional hour for each hour you do not complete. For example, if you only turn in 8 hours of community service during first semester, you will have to complete 14 hours of community service during second semester (2 hours left from first semester + 2 penalty hours + 10 hours required for second semester). If you do not turn in your second semester hours on time, the following consequences will occur:
Juniors will be recommended for probation or dismissal to the Faculty Council. Penalty hours may be assessed for senior year.
Seniors will not be permitted to wear the NHS cord and stole at graduation. Refunds of cord/stole money will not be given.