



# COMMUNITY SERVICE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

## GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

### Do I need to complete community service to graduate high school in 2023?

Yes. In order to graduate high school from a DC public or public charter school in 2023, students must complete **12 hours** of community service. The community service hours must be completed while the student is enrolled in high school. **Community service before a student enters 9th grade does not count toward the graduation requirement.** Schools should instruct students on how to submit completed hours.

### What qualifies as community service?

Community service means an unpaid activity completed for the benefit of society/ your community. Schools are to approve community service completed through activities organized by your school, through a nonprofit or profit organization or in a virtual setting (such as online tutoring).

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE	NOT PERMITTED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community trash clean up</li><li>• Service on a public body or committee as a student representative</li><li>• Service that is part of a high school course</li><li>• Volunteering for a political campaign</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activities where the student gets paid a wage, such as the <a href="#">Advanced Internship Program</a>, the <a href="#">Summer Youth Employment Program</a> or outside employment</li><li>• Activities solely aimed at benefitting the student or student's family, such as babysitting a sibling</li></ul>

### What if I just moved to DC?

Seniors who transferred to a DC public or public charter school from another jurisdiction after the start of the school year do not have to complete the community service to graduation requirements in 2023.

### Questions?

If you have further questions, please contact an administrator or guidance counselor at your school.