



Community Service

At Baldwin School we aim to develop principled, caring and balanced young adults who demonstrate responsible citizenship by connecting and serving others to positively shape our collective future. We are committed to make community service an integral part of our school culture and support students in creating a positive and considerable impact in our community and around the world.

The purpose of the community service program is to provide all Baldwin Middle and Upper School students the opportunity to have a positive impact in our community while learning that service to others is an on-going part of life.

We believe students that take part in community service projects develop skills not commonly found in the classroom as well as encourages them to take an active role as leaders in their communities. The minimum hours required per grade are as follows:

GRADE	Minimum Hours	GRADE	Minimum Hours
6 th Grade	5	9 th Grade	20
7 th Grade	10	10 th Grade	25
8 th Grade	15	11 th Grade	CAS
		12 th Grade	CAS

What qualifies as community service?

- Community service hours must be completed at a non-profit organization.**
- A student may volunteer for a single organization or at a variety of organizations.
- Students are encouraged to complete their hours in areas related to their personal interests.
- Paid experiences do not qualify.
- Babysitting for free or tutoring a classmate does not qualify.**
- Working without pay at your job or for a family business does not qualify.
- Volunteering for any coach or teacher as their assistant will only qualify for in-house community service hours. If classes/clinics are given to disadvantaged groups at no fee for the teacher, coach, organization or the volunteer then it may qualify as outside community service hours. Please consult with the Dean of Students prior to starting.
- Students cannot earn hours for donating items or money, only their time.
- Hours earned separately for the NJHS, NHS or Eagle Scout Medal may only be used to fulfill up to half of your yearly community service credit at Baldwin.
- In most cases volunteer work performed for an individual person (Personal Service) will not be approved. If a student has a significant interest in assisting an individual person (elderly neighbor, disabled person, etc., a family member) the student is required to request preapproval from the Dean of Students office prior to beginning this type of community service activity.
- Service must meet an actual community need.
- Proselytizing religious activities or religious devotion/attendance at services do not qualify.
- Volunteering for political parties or organizations or campaigns does not qualify.
- Activities which are tied to a grade will not count (i.e. - Musical performances with school groups to such places as nursing homes will not count if the activity is tied to a grade in the music class).
- Community Service in school—Credit for community service performed at Baldwin School is capped at half of your minimum required hours.

How do I prove my community service hours?

1. Students must complete a Community Service Verification Form for each organization or activity he/she volunteers at.
2. The organizations supervisor's name, signature, telephone number and email is required on each form.
3. If you have a certificate from the organization a copy must be attached to our form.
4. A parent or immediate family member of a student may not sign as the supervisor.
5. Community Service Forms may be downloaded from our website or Ed-Line.
6. It's recommended that forms be submitted within one month of the date of service and are to be turned into the Dean of Students Office or the Middle and Upper School Office.
7. We encourage students to take pictures while engaged in service and include it in the service form.

MYP COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Community Project is a year-long inquiry that encourages 8th grade – MYP Year 3 - students to explore their rights and responsibilities to implement service and action in their community and the wider world. Students will demonstrate skills in Investigating, Planning, Taking Action and Reflecting. Students must volunteer a minimum of 15 hours for this project and will be meeting with the Community Project Advisor *Mrs. Belinda Santiago* in the beginning of the year for further details and guidance.

CAS (CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY & SERVICE)

At Baldwin School all students regardless of whether they are pursuing a full Diploma or not will participate in the CAS program. CAS involves students in a range of experiences alongside their academic studies. The program starts first semester junior year and will continue until March of their senior year (2nd year of DP) when the final project is due. Students can also engage in CAS experiences during the summer between their junior and senior year. For further information, you may read through the CAS Handbook and contact me.

REGULAR SERVICE HOURS DEADLINES

1. **Hours earned over summer must be turned in at the beginning of the school year by August 31, 2018 to qualify.**
2. **Hours earned during the first semester (August to December) must be turned in by Friday December 14th, 2018 to be counted.**
3. **The deadline for submitting community service hours for the second semester is May 10th 2019.**
4. **Hours not completed during the school year will carry over to the next school year. All hours must be fulfilled by graduation date.**

The students who have completed the most community service hours (completing all requirements) per grade will be recognized at the end of the year awards ceremony and if in 8th or 12th grade during graduation.

We encourage parents to connect with their children in these activities and support them in making an impact in our community. Any questions do not hesitate to contact me via email or phone.

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