



GCA's Mission Engagement

As part of the Mission Engagement development process, Upper School students at Grace Christian Academy participate in meaningful mission experiences and service to others. Students are encouraged and expected to reach out to the needs of their fellow students, their churches, local non-profit agencies and people all across the world.

The goal of the Mission Engagement requirements is to engage our students both academically and spiritually as they seek to glorify God through service to Him. Through these experiences we want students to develop skills in planning, research, communications, service and leadership. The culmination of these experiences will be a lifelong habit of serving others.

Expectations for Each Grade Level

Freshmen | 3 experiences in 2 different categories, totaling 15 hours; to be completed from June 1 – May 15

Sophomores | 4 experiences in 2 different categories, totaling 20 hours; to be completed from June 1 – May 15

Juniors | Choose a Mission Partner, 4 experiences, totaling 20 hours; to be completed from June 1 – May 15

Seniors | Continue Mission Partnership, 4 experiences, totaling 20 hours; to be completed from June 1 – April 30

See Grade Level Sheets for additional information.

Mission Experience

A mission experience is any act of volunteer/non-paid service for others that involves ministering to and serving those outside your immediate family. Activities should not be part of an academic requirement or take place during the school day.

Categories: Students should have Experiences in all 4 categories by the end of 10th Grade

Educational Discipleship | Leading and teaching in your church or your community. Examples include coach, pre-school worker, camp workers, teacher, etc.

People in Need | Reaching out to people to meet a specific need. Examples include elderly home, soup kitchen, shelter, special needs kids, etc.

Community | General service to the community that is not meeting a need of a specific person. Examples include community centers, fire department, parks & rec, clean a stream, 5K run for a cause, etc.

Campus Based | A wide variety of activities through both GCA and GBC will be made available throughout the year.

Mission Engagement Reflection Form (MERF)

Upper school students are required to complete a Mission Engagement Reflection Form (MERF) for each experience. This form summarizes each student's mission experiences and causes them to seriously reflect on the impact it has had on them personally as well as on those they served. It also provides detailed documentation for scholarships and awards. In summary, the MERF provides students opportunities for celebration, deep reflection, accountability and updated community service records.

Mission Partnership

A mission partnership is a deeply invested relationship between a GCA student and a non-profit organization during a student's junior and senior year. Ideas for mission partnership organizations are available on Moodle.