

### Purpose

Students looking to earn Community Service Hours must identify the "cause" to support and feel compelled to fully embody and integrate in the chosen role. As Oxbridge ambassadors, the purpose of this program is for students to leave behind a significant footprint, to look beyond themselves and to reach out for the betterment of our community.

### Benefits

Various colleges and institutions in the United States award scholarships to students who have met the established number of community service hours.

The total amount of community service hours students must earn for each scholarship varies at every institution. Therefore, students are encouraged to keep accurate community service logs.

The type of award(s) earned for every scholarship range as follow: some awards are in the form of an official letter, a pin, a coin or a medallion, and others have significant financial awards.

For example, The Florida Bright Futures scholarship program offers significant tuition support for students attending a Florida college or University. These students are required to meet all the established guidelines and in addition they are also required to meet the following community service requirement:

100 hours to be evaluated for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award; and

75 hours to be evaluated for the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award.



### IMPORTANT NOTE:

**Oxbridge Academy does not have a community service requirement for graduation.**

### Guidelines

Students may begin earning Community Service hours from the summer prior to entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade until the last day of their 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

At the beginning of each academic year students are encouraged to engage with various clubs or programs that offer community service locally and abroad. Qualifying organizations are those that offer the following types of service(s):

Education	Environment preservation	Health & Mental health
Historical site preservation	Medical	Political organizations
Preservation of animal rights	Religious organizations	Sports

Therefore, a student may provide services (including digital services) to or for institutions that directly benefit the following: people experiencing poverty, discrimination, abuse, loss (sudden death, pets), poor health and/or physical-mental health limitations, widows, single parents, orphans, the protection of animals and the environment.

Students may also participate with organizations and online organizations that provide mentoring / coaching services, leadership, guidance, and activities for siblings or younger individuals in our community or abroad. They may also participate in programs and online programs that maintain safety or improve the standard of living for residents in our community and/or abroad.

Oxbridge Academy accepts community service hours rendered by homeschool students and by students transferring from a public or private high school. Accordingly, community services hours earned at the previous school must be listed on corresponding transfer official transcript(s).

### The Process

Continuously maintain a community service hours log (as it occurs) and digitally submit additional hours to the Academic Advising, Student Services, and College Counseling "ASC" office. If a log has not been maintained, students may use the template provided on the Oxbridge website as it follows the recommended format required by the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA). Large organizations often provide form letters on their company letterhead; these forms are also accepted; however, to follow the OSFA required format, it is recommended the student and a parent/guardian also sign these form letters prior to submitting them to the ASC office. (FS: 1009.534)

### Final Approval

All service hours will be evaluated and verified by the ASC office assignee and/or school administrator. To aid with the evaluation, it is recommended that students provide a one-paragraph experience summary evaluating the work performed and their reflection on how it changed, maintained, or improved their view prior to and after the experience. If you have questions regarding the applicability of hours, please contact Monica Hammett at [monica@oapb.org](mailto:monica@oapb.org)

### Non-qualifying Community Service Hours

Any service contrary to the guidelines as established above.

Any service that requires monetary payment, financial benefit, or goods in exchange for community service hours.

Any form of Community Service earned where the student did not actually accumulate hours of work for services provided (For example: Blood donation, Locks of Love, Food Donation.)

Any service that is obligatory where the student is not compelled to integrate. (For example: Court mandated Community Service.)