

COMMUNITY SERVICE VERIFICATION FORM

As a graduation requirement at Lampeter-Strasburg High School, students are required to fulfill at least **30** hours of community service **outside the regular school day**. The hours are expected to be completed prior to the 90th day (around January) of the senior year.

This entails students completing 30 hours of *self-selected* community service. Information regarding acceptable criteria for service can be obtained from the high school guidance office. The community service hours may be completed from the summer preceding the ninth grade year through the 90th day of the senior year. Forms and information regarding the completion of this graduation requirement are available in the high school guidance office or on the District website.

The following guidelines must be followed: The service should directly benefit a local community and/or its members. Unpaid services that directly benefit or assist family members or their businesses do not count as community service. Required hours by an outside government agency cannot be used to fulfill this requirement. Final approval or appeals regarding what counts as service may be presented to the building administration, who makes a final determination.

If there is a question as to what constitutes "community service hours," approval will be determined by the principal of the high school.

This form is to be turned in to the high school guidance department after completion of hours at any particular organization that fits within the parameters as described above. Please print legibly.

Student Name	Grade
Name of Approved Organization	Total Hours of Service
Name of Sponsor	Dates of Service

Briefly describe activity below:

VERIFICATION:

By signature, I verify that the information stated above is correct and accurate regarding completed community service hours.

Student Signature	Date
Sponsor Signature	Date
Sponsor Street Address	Sponsor Phone Number
Sponsor City, State, Zip	Sponsor Cell Phone Number



Community Service Matrix

If you have **ANY** questions, please contact Guidance **PRIOR** to completing your hours!

PRIOR to completing a community service opportunity, all students are strongly advised to review the list of approved Non-Profit (501c3) Community Services organizations in Lancaster County by going to the following website: <https://www.taxexemptworld.com/search.asp?type=ot&state=PA&county=Lancaster>

If your student is interested in pursuing a community service opportunity that does not involve one of the approved Non-Profit organizations included on the list, the student should complete the questions below, review the examples listed, **AND** speak to someone in the Guidance office **BEFORE** pursuing or completing the hours.

1. Explain what you will learn as a result of completing the proposed service.
2. Explain how the activity will benefit the community or its members.
3. The service may NOT be performed for a relative or friend.
4. The service may NOT be performed for any for-profit business (this means if the company earns income for profit, ie: dance studio, pizza shop, retailer, etc.)

EXAMPLES:

Community Service (counts toward the school requirement): Any activity completed for a non-profit organization.

Community Service (counts toward the school requirement ANY ACTIVITY COMPLETED FOR AN INDIVIDUAL, OUTSIDE A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO COMPLETION): A physically disabled or elderly neighbor (minimally retirement age of 65) is unable to remove snow from his/her sidewalks and driveway as a result of a physical disability or advanced age. The student volunteers to complete the task to benefit the community member (this CAN NOT be a relative) who is unable to perform the task and received no compensation. **Rationale:** The community member is unable to perform the snow removal due to advanced age or physical disability and has no one living with them who is physically capable of completing the task. Similar to the Volunteerism example, this is a kind and generous act; however, the removal of snow would NOT be possible without the assistance of the student volunteer.

Basic Volunteerism (NOT counted as Community Service): A student shovels the sidewalks and driveway of a neighbor and receives no compensation. The neighbor has no notable physical afflictions, ailments, or disabilities, and is not elderly. **Rationale:** While this is a kind and generous act to assist the neighbor; the neighbor is capable of performing the snow removal without the assistance of the student. Additionally, the student would learn little from participating in this activity.

Community-Based Learning (NOT counted as Community Service): A class connects with a local agricultural agency to conduct a small stream study of the effects of fertilizer runoff on aquatic life as a class project. The class visits the site on a regular basis to collect samples and to conduct testing. The class works with the agricultural agency to interpret the test results and develop recommendations. **Rationale:** While the recommendations may result in future benefits to the community, the focus is on the educational value resulting from the experience through engagement with the agricultural agency, not specific benefits that may or may not be realized as a result of the study.

Service Learning (NOT counted as Community Service): A student who participates in the Carpentry Program at CTC utilizes and expands his/her skills by volunteering to build homes with Habitat for Humanity during the summer months. **Rationale:** The student is applying skills learned in a specific educational program, gaining valuable experience specific to their field of interest.