



**ST. BERNARD HIGH SCHOOL
9100 FALMOUTH AVENUE
PLAYA DEL REY, CALIFORNIA 90293**

Christian Community Service Requirements 2016-2017

“God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them” Hebrews 6:10

The goal of the service program is to challenge students to be involved in their local communities by volunteering in response to the needs that are presented there. Student volunteer to work only with non-profit agencies. At the end of their four-year studies, each student will have been given the opportunity to experience a variety of services that will also help them clarify their particular gifts and talents.

The service requirement has been designed to achieve the following objectives; (1) to emphasize to both parents and students the importance that St. Bernard High School places on service to people, especially to those in need, (2) to further enhance and support a student’s application to college by providing them a letter of recommendation based on service to their community, and (3) to provide the students the opportunity to reflect upon and learn from their experiences.

Key features and deadline of the service requirements for 2016-2017:

- Every student must perform a minimum of (20) hours of service annually. Beginning with our incoming freshmen class, this means that at the end of senior year, a student will have served at least 80 hours.
- “Community” in “Community Service” refers to service performed outside of St. Bernard High School. Students are only allowed a maximum of (10) hours on-campus service per school year.
- The schedule by which service must be completed as the school year progresses is as follows:
 - **October 7, 2016, 5 hours minimum completed****
 - **January 30, 2017, 15 hours minimum completed**
 - **May 22, 2017, 20 hours minimum completed**
- Students may (are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED) to complete additional hours. One High School Senior will be recommended for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Christian Service Award in February 2017.
- Each Student is required to submit a 500-word reflection of all service experiences for the year.

*****All service hours from the SUMMER will NOT be accepted after this date.***

Consequences for failing to meet the service requirement deadlines for 2016-2017:

- ✓ 1st Offense: Detention
- ✓ 2nd Offense: 1 Saturday detention and parent/student notification
- ✓ 3rd Offense: 2 Saturday detentions and face-to-face parent conference

***Seniors:** By 2nd offense, loss of senior privileges

***Underclassmen:** By 2nd offense, loss of activities privileges (i.e., formal/informal dances)



Verification Forms

- Verification forms must be turned in on time! Late forms will be accepted towards the hour total for the year but will not serve as an excuse for receiving the consequences associated with that quarter.
- A service supervisor must sign off on a student's completed hours. Supervisors must be 21 years old or above. Parents or relatives **CANNOT** verify service.
- It is the **STUDENT'S** responsibility to turn in his or her verification forms on time.
- Any student who performs service hours through St. Bernard High School or an event sponsored by St. Bernard High School may use the school form. On Campus service is limited to (10) hours per year.

WHAT CAN I DO TO EARN SERVICE HOURS?

Community Service

Students may earn service hours for work performed in conjunction with an established community agency or organization whose goals address the heart of the Catholic teaching on social justice. All organizations **MUST BE NON-PROFIT**.

Church Service

Students may earn a maximum of five service hours participating in the life of a parish or congregation in the form of serving Mass, singing in the choir/cantering, lecturing, or distributing communion. These hours require a year-long commitment to this ministry as dictated by your parish. Students may also earn an unlimited amount of service hours by working at events sponsored by the parish or congregation (i.e., festivals, or dinners).

WHAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS SERVICE HOURS?

Family/Friend/Neighbor Related Service

Performing a family/friend/neighbor obligation is **NOT** considered service. Any work performed for free for an individual/family is **NOT** considered service. Examples that will **NOT** count for service include (but are not limited to) babysitting, raking leaves, and/or household chores.

For Profit Businesses

Students may **NOT** earn service hours working for a for profit professional business office or company, even if the student does not get paid.

Clubs/Sports

Students may **NOT** earn service hours for work performed as part of membership in a club or sport where there is a monetary benefit to the organization. This includes work performed for a club team that requires a payment to play. Any student who works bingo will **NOT** earn service hours.

All completed service forms and reflections should be submitted to Ms. Monique Rigard, Director of Campus Ministry. Should you need any clarification of the service requirements or for advice in planning approved service or for additional questions or concerns. Please contact Ms. Rigard at mrigard@stbernardhs.org.