

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
VOLUNTEER SERVICE

FMH-R

**VOLUNTEER
SERVICE HOURS**

The following guidelines address the requirement that all Tornillo ISD students earn a total of 40 volunteer service hours at the conclusion of their senior year. It is recommended that students earn a minimum of 10 volunteer service hours per year.

Volunteer hour requirements shall be waived for all students graduating in the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19 related city closures. The requirement for volunteer service hours will be reevaluated beginning in 2021-2022 to determine accessibility of volunteer facilities. Additional options for earning volunteer service hours will also be revised annually.

Definition

Volunteer service to the community shall be defined as service performed for approved persons, organizations, or agencies outside of the student's home and/or family. The services shall be performed without monetary compensation and hours shall be performed as part of the regular school day unless students are participating in a school sponsored school/community service project. Volunteer service hours earned through participation in school-based student organizations that perform community service is permissible.

Timeline

Students entering the Tornillo ISD after the beginning of each new school year are subject to fulfilling the accumulated volunteer service hour requirement as follows:

- Students may begin accumulating service hours for each school year after the last day of instruction for the previous year, and prior to May 1, of the current school year.
- The superintendent may approve student volunteer service hours beyond May 1 and up to the day before graduation ceremonies based on extenuating circumstances on a case by case basis.

Transfer Students

- A student enrolling before January 1 of the current school year must complete all accumulated volunteer community service hour requirements as if they had entered on the first day of school (i.e., student entering before January 1 of 11th grade would be required to earn 20 accumulated hours of volunteer service to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies at the end of their senior year.
- Students excused through an Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee will have to complete at least 10-20

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hours community service with alternate activities as determined by the Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee.

Monitoring

Each campus will designate one person per zero period to monitor the documentation of service hours using appropriate forms (see Exhibit) and ensure the inclusion of accumulated hours in the student's Personal Graduation Plan each year.

The accumulation of volunteer service hours for seniors will be monitored throughout the year and verified during senior clearance.

Seniors earning at least 120 approved volunteer service hours prior to graduation ceremonies their senior year will be eligible to wear a special cord with their graduation gown.

Transportation

Transportation may be provided by the campus for student groups to participate in volunteer community service, at the principal's discretion.

Parent Notification

Parents shall be notified of the volunteer service requirements at the beginning of each school year using multiple forms of communication, beginning no later than the second week of school.

Parent notification shall include, but not be limited to:

- Letter(s) from the district
- Flyers
- Posters
- Announcements
- Broadcast phone calls
- District webpage/campus websites
- Registration packets
- Student handbook
- Student agendas