

What is Service-Learning?

Service-learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum-based learning. Students improve their academic skills by applying what they learn in school to the real world; they then reflect on their experience to reinforce the link between their service and their learning. -- Learning in Deed

Three Essential Steps to Service-Learning:

Preparation is the first step of service-learning in which students cooperate with teachers and community members to identify issues affecting the community:

Action is the next step of service-

learning in which students carry out their service. Projects can take place in school or in the community.

Types of action:

Direct, Indirect, or Advocacy

Reflection is the final step of service-learning in which students look back upon the project and review what they have learned. Reflection may be done individually (journals, scrapbooks, artwork, etc) or as a group (discussion, skits, etc).

What is the Service-Learning Requirement?

All students receiving a Maryland high school diploma are required to complete 75 hours of service-learning (or a determined pro-rated amount for qualifying high school students) prior to graduation from high school.

Reporting

At the end of each school year, students' hours will automatically be generated on the report card. This will inform parents and students of the status of completed requirements for that year. At the end of 9th grade, if a student has fulfilled the service-learning requirement, PASS appears on the report card along with the hours completed.

However, if a student does not complete the service-learning requirement by the end of the 9th grade, the number of hours will appear and PASS will be added only when he/she completes the requirement in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade.

How will ACPS students meet the requirement?

Students earn hours for completing service projects that are a part of the required curriculum during school hours in the following grades:

| | 6 th Grade 1.5 Hours | 7 th Grade 30 Hours | 8 th Grade 1.5 Hours | 9 th Grade 15 Hours |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| English | 3 | | 3 | 5 |
| Science | 3 | | 3 | 5 |
| Social Studies | 3 | | 3 | 5 |
| Math | 3 | | 3 | |
| Creative Arts | 3 | | 3 | |
| Rocky Gap Outdoor School | | 30 Hours | | |
| Service-Learning Orientation | | | | |

