

VOLUNTEERISM CREDIT

Background

The Division may approve the granting of one Volunteerism Credit per student registered at a Northwest School Division high school for volunteering for a not-for-profit organization. This granting will recognize student achievement in areas outside the regular secondary level program.

Definitions

1. Community Service Activities refers to organized activities led by businesses, not-for-profit organizations, public sector institutions (including schools, hospitals, long-term care facilities and childcare facilities), and informal settings that contribute to the health of the community and broader society.
2. Volunteer refers to someone who gives their time in support of helping others with no expectation of gain or material benefit in return.
3. Volunteerism refers to the act of volunteering through community service activities. Volunteerism enhances the well-being of self and others while providing meaningful service to the individual, organization and community. Volunteerism can assist students in building pathways to the workforce; it is another form of applied learning and work exposure that supports career decision making while providing a context for learning.

Procedures

1. To earn a volunteerism credit, the student must be enrolled in a regular 24 credit program in the Education Organization school.
2. Volunteerism hours must be completed in grades 10 to 12.
3. To enroll in the volunteerism credit, the student is required to submit a personalized learning plan to the school administration, using Appendix D - Volunteerism 30 Plan Template.
4. Appendix D - Volunteerism 30 Plan Template must be completed and approved by the principal or designate.
5. Volunteer hours are to be undertaken and completed outside of the regular school program hours. However, an activity that takes place during the student's lunch breaks, "spare" periods, before or after regular school hours is permissible.

6. The volunteerism credit requires a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer time for one or more community service activities.
7. Volunteerism 30 credit will receive a Standing Granted (SG) as a final mark record. All volunteerism credits are to be submitted to the ministry using [Form 8.1 Secondary Level Non-Academic Course](#) – New Mark Addition accompanied by a copy of the student’s completed Appendix E Volunteerism 30 Credit Student Log.
8. Schools shall communicate to parents/guardians and students the availability, the administrative procedure or policy requirements for credit attainment for volunteerism.
9. The Northwest School Division shall retain a copy of the volunteerism plan and log and supporting documentation on file for a minimum of five years. All proposals are subject to ministry auditing.
10. This policy is not applicable to the Adult 12 program requirements.

Reference: Ministry of Education Registrar’s Handbook
Ministry of Education Volunteerism Policy 2023 [Volunteerism Policy](#)
Sections 4(1), (1.1)(c), 4.02 and 149(1) *The Education Act*, 1995
RRS c L-1 Reg 5 *Labour Standards Regulations*, 1995
Section 14 Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, 1996 under the
Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993

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