



Community Service FAQ's for Promise Scholars

Overview:

As a San Marcos Promise scholar, you have agreed to completing 20 community service hours each academic year to maintain ongoing scholarship eligibility. Community service hours are tracked annually beginning July 1st through May 24th each academic year. To assist you in completing this requirement, The San Marcos Promise offers a variety of community service opportunities throughout the year designed to build a culture of "giving back" to our SMUSD students, schools, and community. Through volunteering at outreach events, Promise Scholars will cultivate interpersonal communication and soft skills that will be invaluable regardless of the career pathway you explore.

Community service is an opportunity to make new connections, learn new skills, explore new interests, give back to the San Marcos community. Community service may also serve as an eye-opening experience to introduce Promise scholars to new skills and interests which may correlate to a potential career.

Fulfilling your required community service hours will help us build a culture of achievement, allowing you to serve as a mentor and role model to current students, instilling a sense of hope and responsibility. If you do not complete and report your annual community service hours to our TSMP offices prior to May 24th, 2018, your Promise scholarship for the Fall 2019 term will be terminated.

How many hours must I complete in an academic school year?

Every Promise Scholar must complete a minimum of 20 hours. Community service hours are tracked annually beginning July 1st through May 24th each academic year. A minimum of 10 hours must be completed specifically through TSMP and at TSMP sponsored events.

What events are acceptable to satisfy my community service requirement?

Fulfilling your required community service hours will help us build a culture of achievement, allowing you to serve as a mentor and role model to current students, instilling a sense of hope and responsibility. To accomplish this goal, Promise Scholars must complete community service hours with TSMP per the TSMP Community Service calendar and via SMUSD and school sites event.

Can I do community service through my own events in North County?

Up to 10 hours may be approved by TSMP staff if the volunteer hours are directly related to a scholar's career goals. We highly encourage Scholars to email volunteer@thesanmarcospromise.org to gain approval before the May 24th 2019 deadline.



Do I need to fill out the community service log completely to receive hours?

Yes, all the information provided on the community service log is important and will help confirm the validity of your hours and allow our team to track the service done by you and all of our scholars.

What does NOT count as community service?

Service that does NOT count towards the requirement are activities done in a student's own household or through their immediate family (e.g., mowing the lawn, picking up trash in your neighborhood, walking the dog, babysitting, etc.)

How do I find out about community service events?

Every scholar is mandated to supply their school email address and a personal address. This email address will serve as the primary form of communication by TSMP staff to Promise scholars of upcoming events at either TSMP, SMUSD, Palomar and/or community events. If you neglected to complete our [Promise Scholar Application upon graduation, please click here to share your student information](#).

Who do I contact if I have more questions about community service events?

If you are currently a Promise scholar or parent, please contact our Ambassador Team at volunteer@thesanmarcospromise.org for any questions regarding community service events or opportunities.

What happens if I don't meet the required 20 hours of community service?

If any Promise scholar doesn't complete their 20 hours of community service it will result in the termination of their scholarship. It is up to Promise scholars to complete the required hours and ensure those hours have been registered with TSMP staff.

What is the dress code for TSMP events?

The dress code for TSMP events is business casual unless otherwise stated. Business casual for women is black pants, flats, blouse, or a dress with a cardigan. Business casual for men would also be defined as black pants, closed toed shoes, dress shirt or button-up shirt.

What if I turn in my community service log late?

The deadline to turn in any community service log is May 24, 2018. There will be no exceptions, as a Promise Scholar it is important to be aware of deadlines and send any documents before the deadline.