



COMMUNITY SERVICE

In its mission statement, Rochambeau, the French International School, values openness to the community, and to the wider world. While completing Community Service, you will expand your horizons, and become a responsible, active citizen.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY SERVICE?

Community Service refers to service that a person performs for the benefit of the broader community. By planning, implementing, and reflecting on your community service, you will develop your sense of civic engagement.

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

There are many ways in participating in community service, depending on your skills and interests. Some examples include:

- Working with children: tutoring children after school.
- Working with senior citizens: visiting residents of a retirement center.
- Improving the environment: park clean-ups, removing invasive plants, planting trees.
- Helping low-income people: collecting food/clothes, passing out food at a soup kitchen.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE?

There are many benefits for participating in community service:

Making a difference is the main and foremost benefit. It gives you the opportunity to improve someone's life, to make a change in the community, and to see the direct impact of your work.

Gaining experience is very valuable, as you can learn new skills (construction, painting, etc.), improve social and communication skills, become better organized and more responsible, and develop leadership skills.

Learning about different careers will help you decide which path you might want to pursue. Whether volunteering in an animal shelter, a hospital, in a museum, in a lab, a school or a park, these are hands-on opportunities which can help you get an internship or a job in the future.

Last but not least, it will be a reflection of your personality, your commitment, and your strengths, which will be a great asset for university admissions, and employers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All activities must be performed through a non-profit, tax-exempt organization **in a public place** - not in a private residence.
2. All activities must be secular in nature.
3. All activities must be performed **without financial compensation** or grade compensation.
4. Appropriate attire must be respected according to the activity.
5. **Cellular phones** may NOT be used while performing community service projects.

DOCUMENTATION AND DEADLINES

Documentation Forms are available online at

[http://www.rochambeau.org/uploaded/PUBLIC_PAGES/EXPERIENCE/Community_Service/community_service_documentation_form - rev 9-2016.pdf](http://www.rochambeau.org/uploaded/PUBLIC_PAGES/EXPERIENCE/Community_Service/community_service_documentation_form_rev_9-2016.pdf)

Completed forms must be submitted after each activity **within two weeks of service**. The original form must be handed in to Mrs. Genovese by the student, thoroughly completed, with the signature of the supervisor of the agency involved – no parents' signature, please. You are responsible for getting, and completing these forms, NOT the person for whom the work is done.

Service completed in the summer: **Last Friday in September**

Service completed during the 1st semester: **First Friday in January**

Service completed during the 2nd semester: **First Friday in June**

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF WE CANNOT DETERMINE THE NATURE OF THE ACTIVITY, AND IF IT IS NOT PROPERLY SIGNED, WE CANNOT GIVE YOU THE APPROPRIATE CREDIT.

LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES

For current opportunities to offer school service to the Rochambeau Community: go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4fafad2da0fd0-student>

For opportunities to be of service in your local neighborhood community, go to: <http://www.montgomeryserves.org/volunteers/students-service-learning-ssl>

Make sure you plan ahead, and get approval for your service. Questions should be directed to Mr. Tripp or Mrs. Genovese.

REQUIREMENT

Rochambeau does not have a specific requirement for graduation, but for all the reasons listed above, you are strongly encouraged to become actively involved in your community. Giving time and care for others is an enriching and gratifying experience.

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" Gandhi



LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ GRADE _____

“I have read and understood the guidelines for Community Service.”

Student's signature _____ Parent's signature _____

Date _____

Date _____

Please print, sign and return this form to Mme Genovese.