

Service Learning Project Little Rock Christian Academy

Serving others is a way of life at LRCA and allows students to live out the good news of Jesus. Service Learning is defined as an educational method by which students learn and develop through active participation in service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community. Service learning helps students develop their gifts and passions, as well as teaching them the importance of using gifts and time for something outside themselves and for building the body and community (Galatians 6:10). It models the example of Christ; one of servant-leadership. Students can provide service in the community on a volunteer basis to public, nonprofit agencies, civic and charitable organizations and to our school campus.

“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven”
(Matthew 5:16, NIV)

Service Requirement

A service learning project is a graduation requirement. Each graduate must complete the project as outlined by the completion date. Supporting documentation must also be completed for proper credit.

Service Overview

There are basic guidelines that should be used to determine the appropriateness of the project. These are

- Service is defined as any sort of work a student does for the benefit of others, for which no fee, payment, or public recognition is received- that is, you may not receive payment or gifts for your service,
- The service must benefit the community at large,
- The student may provide service for public, nonprofit agencies, civic and charitable organizations or our school campus
- The supervisor of your service cannot be an immediate family member unless employed by the non-profit organization
- The service must be completed outside the school day
- There are sometimes exceptions to the above and must receive prior administrative approval. The student must submit the proposal to the Director of Student Life.
- Students must complete either a Tier 1 or a Tier 2 project

Project Types

Tier 1

Tier 1 projects are basic projects with a minimum hour requirement and can be a collection of several smaller service opportunities. These might include delivering food to the needy, volunteering at a hospital or senior care center, attending a mission trip or teaching Vacation Bible School.

- 15 hours minimum required
- May be a combination of 1 or more different service opportunities

Tier 2

Tier 2 projects are project-driven and do not have a minimum hour requirement. These are short-term or long-term projects where the student is responsible for the service project from start to finish. Usually, he or she enlists others to help with the project. Examples include organizing a clothing drive, overseeing a program or beginning a new ministry opportunity. It is recommended (but not required) that the student seek approval from the Office of the Director of Student Life prior to beginning. Each student must have an adult supervisor. This type of project shows colleges that the student has creativity and initiative.

- No minimum hours required
- Single project
- Enlists and organizes others
- Shows leadership skills

Deadline

- The project may begin during the summer following the junior year (June)
- Service and forms must be completed by February 1 of the student's senior year. Remember that these are beneficial on college applications, which are completed during the first semester.

Forms

Forms are to be completed and turned in to the Student Service Learning Project Coordinator. These are available from the Student Life web page (Forms and Downloads) and in the trays located next to the announcement bulletin board. Choose the correct form (Tier 1 or Tier 2). The form must include signatures (supervisor and a parent signature).

Suggestions

Choose a project:

- in an area of personal heartfelt interest and one that brings *you* joy
- that will allow *you* to go above the “minimum” requirement
- *you* can continue as a senior that you have been a part of as an underclassman-this year to develop further in the area of leadership

For more information, contact the Director of Student Life.