



**College and Career
Counseling Department
(603) 635-2116**

Community Service



Directory

The History and Mission of Community Service at PHS

In 1992, the Pelham School Board approved the Community Service Program as part of our mission to promote our students to become socially responsible members of the community. At Pelham High School, we encourage all aspects of learning and believe that learning outside the classroom promotes values that our students may not otherwise foster. Parents and students are advised that college admissions and scholarship selection committees look most favorably upon meaningful community service. All students must perform and document 40 hours of service as a graduation requirement; 10 hours for each year in attendance. Volunteering is a selfless act that is not all that common in our society today, so volunteer with pride and grow from all your learning experiences!

Pelham High School Expectations for Service Learning

The idea of Service Learning lies within the connection between community service and the school curriculum. Service Learning enhances personal character, academic achievement, and most importantly, the preparation for becoming engaged citizens.

Social Expectations:

- * Treat members of society with tolerance and respect
- * Exhibit social awareness and interpersonal skills
- * Demonstrate skills related to attaining academic and personal goals
- * Demonstrate decision making and communication skills
- * Establish and maintain positive working relationships
- * Assume personal responsibility for own behavior
- * Be positive representatives of PHS
- * Exhibit reliable skills that include punctuality, consistency, and regular attendance

Civic Expectations:

- * Contribute to the community through involvement
- * Demonstrate appropriate citizenship
- * Recognize the rights and obligations as contributing members of society
- * Understand and respect the heritage of others

Guidelines

- The hours served must be for the benefit of the community, not for the benefit of a profit-making business.
- The service hours cannot be performed for an immediate or extended family member.
- All community service must be performed without a material or monetary reward.
- Activities such as babysitting, yard or housework to help a friend or neighbor **does NOT** count toward the requirement unless pre-approved.
- Community service may be performed at any time during students' high school duration, from the summer before freshman year until March 15th of their senior year. Senior privileges are dependent, in part, on completion of the community service requirement.
- All completed community service must be approved. Forms submitted later than eight (8) weeks after the completion date will receive ½ credit provided the forms are presented within the academic year in which they were performed.

Procedure

- A pre-approval form must be submitted if the activity is not listed as pre-approved on page three (3). When the activity is finished, students must submit a completion form with the required signatures and a typed summary and reflection. Upon receipt of the forms students are notified of approval or denial of the service activity.
- If the community service is an ongoing activity, a list of specific dates and hours must be attached.
- Appeals: Any student who disagrees with the decision may request an appeal. The College and Career Counseling Department will reconsider and may consult with PHS Administration for a final decision.

Avoid these common mistakes:

- Skipping the pre-approval process.
- Volunteering at a for-profit (money-making) agency or business.
- Turning in community service completion forms late or with incomplete (parent/supervisor signatures).
- Students cannot be paid for community service hours.

Area Groups That DO NOT Require Approval

- Pelham Elementary School (603) 635-8875
- Pelham Memorial School (603) 635-2321
- Pelham High School (603) 635-2115
- Pelham Parks & Recreation (603) 635-2721
- Pelham Police Department (603) 635-2411
- Pelham Fire Department (603) 635-2703
- Pelham Public Library (603) 635-7581
- Pelham Senior Center (603) 635-3800
- The First Congregational Church - Old Home Day - (603) 635-7025
- Assisting coaches with various town teams for younger children
- Volunteering at a non-profit hospital and/or elderly care facility
- Babysitting at town meetings, Parent Teacher Association meetings, Voting, and Parent Teacher Conferences
- Pelham Community Spirit Committee (603) 475-5869

Other Local Approved Community Service Opportunities

American Legion Post www.Pelham-nh.com	Girl Scouts/Cub Scouts www.Pelham-nh.com	Nashua Soup Kitchen (603) 889-7770
Animal Rescue - Pelham (603) 635 2211	Lowell General Hospital (978) 937-6280	Sonshine Soup Kitchen (603) 437-2833
Lowell Humane Society (978) 452-7781	NH Special Olympics (603) 624-1250	Saints Memorial Med. Center (978) 934-8309
Pelham Good Neighbor Fund St. Patrick's Food Pantry (603) 635-7592	Holy Family Hospital Medical Center (978) 687-0156 Ext. 2440	Methuen MSPCA/AHES Animal Shelter (978) 687-7453

**** Community Service opportunities that are announced through the College and Career Counseling Department are considered pre-approved. All other activities should be pre-approved to ensure that they meet the community service criteria.**

Pelham High School

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