

# **Community Involvement – Diploma Requirements**

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Every student who begins Secondary School during or after the 1999-2000 school year must complete 40 hours of Community Service Involvement. This requirement is to encourage students to develop awareness and an understanding of civic responsibility and the role they can play in their communities. Students, in collaboration with their parents, are responsible for selecting volunteer activities from the “Eligible Activity List”. Students and their parents/guardians have the responsibility for completing the “Completion of Community Involvement Activities” form found in Guidance Services and the front office and hand this form in to the school as required. They are also to ensure that the corresponding total number of hours are recorded correctly on the student’s report card. To ensure the ongoing recording of a student’s Community Service hours, students should pass in a signed record of completed hours to the front office at the beginning of each December and May to ensure that accumulated hours are shown accurately on their report card.

## ***Community Involvement – Eligible Activity List***

Eligible activities must be without pay, outside class time, and not part of a course requirement, such as job shadowing, co-op or work experience. However, an eligible activity that takes place during a student’s lunch break or “spare” periods is acceptable. The SCDSB in consultation with School Councils, the Special Education Advisory Committee and Ontario School Board’s Insurance Exchange (OSBIE) approve the activities listed below:

- assistance to seniors;
- environmental projects;
- community sports and recreation activities;
- specific school-related activities;
- working with charitable and service organizations;
- community activities;
- working in health facilities.

## ***The Ministry’s List of Ineligible Activities***

The Ministry of Education has developed a list of activities that cannot be chosen for Community Involvement Activities. An ineligible activity is one that:

- takes place in a logging or mining environment, if the student is under sixteen years of age
- takes place in a factory, if the student is under fifteen years of age
- takes place in a workplace other than a factory, if the students in under fourteen years of age and is not accompanied by an adult
- would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace
- involves the operation of a vehicle, power tools, or scaffolding
- involves the administration of any type or form of medication or medical procedure to other persons
- involves the handling of substances classed as “designated substances” under the Occupational Health and Safety Act
- requires the knowledge of a tradesperson whose trade is regulated by the provincial government
- involves banking or the handling of securities, or the handling of jewelry, works of art, antiques, or other valuables
- consists of duties normally performed in the home (e.g., daily chores) or personal recreational activities
- involves a court-ordered program (e.g., community-service program for young offenders, probationary program.)
- involves the use of a firearm