

Christian Service Learning FAQ's

- a. What are the consequences if the hours are not completed? If Campus Ministry does not get these by the end of junior year, senior privilege is suspended until the A-day after they are turned in. Then, if they are still not turned in by January of senior year, students will lose participation in Year Day, Prom, and Graduation, depending on when the hours are submitted. (While service hours are not due until junior year, they can be turned in at any time throughout the school year.)
- b. What are some good opportunities for a quality service learning experience? Since only 45 hours are required, we prefer that the hours are earned by directly helping the less fortunate (i.e, sick, poor, elderly, handicapped populations). By "directly," we mean working one on one or in groups, rather than performing administrative or clerical work. The best places to find these types of opportunities are hospitals, soup kitchens, churches, and homeless shelters. While these may be the best opportunities, projects are certainly not limited to these places...
- c. How can I go about finding service projects? Do I need permission? There is a list of pre-approved agencies in the Campus Ministry office as well as on the Guidance website. Often, students can earn hours for volunteering at Seton Keough's special events, such as Open House. If you have a project in mind that is not on the pre-approved list, you are welcome to ask Fr. Gerry for approval. HOWEVER, if you turn in hours that were not on the pre-approved list OR not pre-approved, there is a possibility those hours will not be accepted. (This policy is reviewed every year during orientation and is available year-round on the Guidance website.) If you are not sure, just ask!
- d. How should these hours be documented? There is a "Service Learning Approval" form available in the Campus Ministry office or you can download the form off of the Guidance website. Please have the top half of these forms filled out BEFORE you ask Fr. Gerry for approval. If you are volunteering at one of the pre-approved agencies you do NOT need to ask Fr. Gerry before you start, just remember to have your supervisor fill out the form when you are done. You only need one sheet per agency per year. (ANY hours completed over the summer between 8th and 9th grade will be accepted and not subject to our guidelines. We will also accept any hours completed during 9th, 10th or 11th grade for students transferring into Seton Keough but these must be officially documented on the official transcript.)
- e. Is that it? Almost. There is also a feedback sheet for you to discuss and evaluate your experience, which is to be turned into Fr. Gerry. The feedback sheet must accompany the service learning sheet in order for hours to be counted, starting Monday, September 15th, 2008.