

## Student Volunteer Guidelines

We have created the following guidelines to help you determine whether or not an activity will count as eligible service hours for the Do Good Award. The most important thing to keep in mind is that the focus of the Do Good Award is public service, and our goal is to recognize you for benefitting the off-campus community! Please email [leaveyourpawprint@csusb.edu](mailto:leaveyourpawprint@csusb.edu) with any questions!

- What about volunteer service for activities where I received compensation or academic credit?
  - If the only thing you receive is a free meal or t-shirt, the service hours count.
  - If you receive money, academic credit or priority registration, the service does not count. However, if you continue to volunteer after the required academic hours (like for an internship or clinical hours,) the additional hours count.
- What about faith-based volunteer service?
  - Religious activities do not count as volunteer service. Examples include:
    - Religious Instruction/Outreach
    - Acting as a host or greeter
    - Creating religious materials
    - Fundraising for a religious organization
  - Other types of faith-based service do count, such as assisting in the church's food pantry, providing meals to the homeless, or creating care packages.
- What about on-campus activities?
  - On-campus events that do not directly benefit the off-campus community do not count. Examples of what doesn't count include:
    - On-campus tabling for clubs/organizations (with some exceptions)
    - Conducting research with a faculty member
    - CSUSB Commencement or club/college specific graduation ceremonies
    - [Campus Leadership Opportunities](#)
    - Activities that only benefit the club or organization, including attending/leading club meetings, preparing agendas, or marketing activities
  - On-campus events that directly benefit the public do count. Examples include:
    - Club/organization events where 100% of donations will go to a nonprofit, such as food drives, clothing/blanket drive, fun runs, etc.
- Working for free for a for-profit organization does not count as volunteer service.
- Travel time to the nonprofit agency does not count - only the time when you are directly serving.
- Summer camp volunteering counts, but only the time when you are directly serving (not sleeping or eating.)
- What about tutoring for free?
  - Tutoring non-CSUSB students/non-family members does count
  - English conversation sessions with CSUSB students does not count
  - After-school programs, like Think Together, do count
  - Paid tutoring of any kind does not count
- What about volunteer work done for friends and family members?
  - Doing work for free for family or friends, including yardwork, babysitting, hosting family events, etc. does not count, but will earn you the respect of your family and friends, which is priceless!

- What about donations?
  - Attempting to or donating blood counts as one volunteer hour.
  - Donation of funds or items to a nonprofit does count, as long as you are counting the time you spent making the donation, not the value of the donation. For example: purchasing an item from a homeless shelter's Amazon wish list would count as one hour of actual service (regardless of the dollar amount), while gathering supplies from neighbors for military care packages would count as the amount of time you spent in action...not the number of care packages donated.
  - If you are donating items to Goodwill or the Salvation Army, only the time spent packing and delivering the items counts, not the time spent cleaning or organizing your closets.
  - Evaluating the service time spent for donations can be confusing. Please email [leaveyourpawprint@csusb.edu](mailto:leaveyourpawprint@csusb.edu), and we will be happy to help you!