

Volunteer Hours

September 26 , 2023

East Hill Christian School intends to develop students who understand the importance of volunteer service in order to better their community while demonstrating the servant nature Christ desires. In order to ensure all students have the opportunity to qualify for the Bright Futures scholarship offered by the state of Florida, EHCS has adopted guidelines to align with those found in the Bright Futures handbook.

Students must complete a program of volunteer service or, beginning with a high school student graduating in the 2022-23 academic year and thereafter, paid work, as approved by the district school board, the administrators of a nonpublic school. Each district school board and the administrators of a nonpublic school must establish approved activities and the process for documentation of volunteer service or paid work hours including the deadline by which they must be completed. Students must earn either the required volunteer service, paid work hours, or the combination of 100 total hours. The student may identify a social or civic issue or a professional area that interests them and develop a plan for their personal involvement in addressing the issue or learning about the area. The student must, through papers or other presentations, evaluate and reflect upon their volunteer service or paid work experience. Volunteer service or paid work may include, but is not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours of volunteer service or paid work must be documented in writing, and the document must be signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization for which the student performed the volunteer service or paid work.

-Florida Department of Education.

(2023-24). [Florida Bright Futures Handbook](#). Office of Student Financial Assistance, p.4

The following are examples of volunteer service or paid work that are acceptable:

- Working or volunteering for a local organization such as a hospital, food bank, child care agency, etc.
- Working or volunteering for a local church. This work should not directly benefit the student, i.e. raising funds for a trip the student intends to attend.
- Working or volunteering for school activities. The student may not receive a grade for this work, the student cannot directly benefit from the work, nor can the student volunteer to benefit a team or club of which he or she is a member.

Students are required to document 25 hours of volunteer service or paid work for each year he or she is enrolled in grades 9-12, for a total of 100 hours to be eligible for graduation. Students who have not met this requirement are not eligible to participate in class activities until this requirement has been met. Students who transfer to East Hill Christian School in grades 10-12 will have the prior years waived for the purposes of determining graduation eligibility, however, the student must submit the full 100 hours to qualify for the Bright Futures scholarship.

Students must submit a written reflection for each activity he or she submits for volunteer service or paid work. The reflection must be a minimum of 250 words and answer the following questions:

- What work was performed?
- How does this work solve a problem or help the community?
- What did you learn from this activity and/or what personal growth did you experience?

Instructions for submitting documentation will be published in the parent-student handbook, on the guidance page of the website, and in the FACTS Family portal