

Woodsville High School Silver Cord Program Information and Guidelines

What is the Silver Cord Program:

Woodsville High School's mission statement proclaims WHS graduates will contribute positively to their school and community. To help our students meet this expectation, WHS has decided to implement the **Silver Cord Program**. Students who participate in the program will develop leadership and citizenship skills and benefit the community. The Silver Cord Award is a distinguished volunteer service award for all Woodsville High School students. As we transition into this program, the amount of community service hours required for each member of the class who chooses to take part in the program will be as follows:

Students may begin accumulating hours following graduation in the 8th grade. Forms are available on the WHS webpage. Forms may be submitted electronically at any time throughout the school year. All forms should be turned in by May 1st of that school year. Seniors must have all forms in by May 1st for consideration of graduation with the Silver Cord honor.

Documentation:

You must be pre-approved first! Don't forget that your service project must have already received approval from your roundhouse advisor before documenting your hours.

Students must document all service activities on the Silver Cord Verification Form- one form for each site or project. The Silver Cord Verification Form must be signed by the supervisor after service to validate the student's hours. A student reflection is an essential piece of this document that the student volunteer must complete. Service hours should be separate from breaks, meals, or travel. Forms should be submitted electronically to the student's Roundhouse Advisor. Forms should be submitted no later than May 1st.

Volunteer or service hours completed during the summer may be applied to the following school year. Students should contact Mr. Strauch if they have questions during the summer.

Silver Cord Guidelines and Service Ideas

- Fifty hours must be completed before the end of the first whole week of senior year.
- Services must be performed for someone other than a family member.
- Services can not be for pay.
- Services cannot be court-ordered.
- Services must be pre-approved and documented.
- Parents cannot sign the form.

- Silver Cord hours must provide a SERVICE or meet a clear need for a non-profit agency, school, park, charity program, or fundraiser. or community events. The service should be “above and beyond” one’s usual scope of involvement.
- Hours accrued through school-sponsored organizations may only be counted toward half the Silver Cord requirement. this would include service hours for the National Honor Society, Student Council, etc.
- You may not include any hours from a church service (serving, singing, playing music), preparing/cleaning related to a church service, church programs such as confirmation, or church committees. However, this would count if you volunteer through your church and perform service that is NOT expected to complete a particular program.

The following are ideas to fulfill hours of service:

- Clean up a park (pulling weeds, completing a project).
- Volunteer at a food pantry.
- Volunteer at a Humane Shelter
- Volunteer at a Nursing Home or Hospice.
- Volunteer at the library or recreation center.
- Volunteer for a Chamber of Commerce.
- Volunteer for a non-profit organization.
- Volunteer for Little League (Coach, referee).
- Volunteer for Relay for Life.

If you have questions, speak to your Roundhouse Advisor to seek pre-approval for your volunteer hours.