

FCPS Student Service Learning

Frederick County Public Schools values the opportunity for all students to grow through service to others. The school system offers two types of service Learning programs. The first is type is intended to provide equitable access to meet the **MSDE Student Service Learning Graduation Requirement**. These hours are accumulated through direct, indirect and advocacy service projects incorporated into their course work. These hours take place in school at the both the Middle and High School level and are intended to provide student service learning experiences enabling all students to equitably meet the MSDE Student Service Learning Graduation Requirement.

The second type is **Volunteer hours and Community Service**. Students are encouraged to demonstrate service to others by volunteering outside of school or through extracurricular organizations. Students who earn 75 or more hours are recognized by their high school. Students may begin earning hours in middle school and are allowed to transfer up to 25 hours of Volunteer hours and Community Service to high school. These hours are documented using the Community Service Volunteer hours form and are submitted to each schools Service Learning Coordinator. For information can be accessed on the [Volunteer hours and Community Service form](#).

MSDE Student Service Learning Graduation Requirement

Middle School Infused Hours

Student Service Learning is infused into the mathematics, language arts, science and social studies curriculum. Students who attend an FCPS middle school for grades six through eight will earn 45 service learning hours by the end of their eighth-grade year. These 45 hours are transferred to the high school and are applied toward the 75 hours required for graduation.

Subject	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Math	1	1	1
Science	1		
Language Arts	1	1	1
Social Studies	1	1	1
Totals	4	3	3

Pro-Rated Hours for Transfer Students

The SSL graduation requirement is pro-rated for all middle and high school students who transfer into Frederick County Public Schools from another county or state after the start of the 6th grade year. These pro-rated and/or transfer hours are entered in e-school by the counseling registrar as part of the transfer process. If the student has a record of student service learning hours earned prior to enrolling in FCPS. Those hours will be entered into e-school if the number of hours is greater than the number of pro-rated hours. However, FCPS has established a maximum number of hours that can be transferred to high school. At the end of each year, counselors run a report to ensure that students' SSL hours are on track.

Grade	Pro-Rated Hours
1 st Semester 6 th	0
2 nd Semester 6 th	9
1 st Semester 7 th	18 (13.5)
1 st Semester 8 th	31.5 (13.5)
At the end of 8 th	45

Using the chart above, 6th grade students who enroll after the first semester, will receive 9 pro-rated hours. A student who enrolls at the beginning of 7th grade will receive 18 transfer hours. Hours will need to be adjusted accordingly for any student who enters at the beginning of second semester. When an 8th grade student enrolls at the beginning of the year, they will receive 31.5 transfer hours (18 for 6th grade and 13.5 for 7th grade). Students should leave middle school with a total of 45 hours.

High School Infused Hours

Student Service Learning is infused into many high school course curriculums. Students who attend an FCPS school for grades nine through twelve and successfully complete courses with infused service learning activities have the opportunity to earn up to 58.5 additional service learning hours (Middle School 45 hours+ 58.5 High School = 102.5.) Service Learning hours are infused in the following high school courses:

Math	Algebra I Geometry Statistics and Probability
Social Studies	Modern World History American Studies II Government
Science	Biology
Language Arts	English 9 English 10 English 11
Health	Health
World Language	French 1 German 1 Spanish 1 Latin 1
Tech Ed	Foundations of Technology

With so many opportunities, most students should earn the required hours for graduation through infused coursework. However, in the event that a High School student does not meet the requirement through their coursework, they are still required to meet the graduation requirement of 75 hours. In this circumstance, the additional hours are earned through community service. [Volunteer hours and Community Service form.](#)

Pro-Rated Hours for Transfer Students:

The SSL graduation requirement is also pro-rated for high school students who transfer into Frederick County Public Schools. Pro-rated and/or transfer hours are entered into e-school as part of the transfer process. An incoming freshman receives the same number of pro-rated hours (45) whether they are coming from an FCPS middle school or transfers into FCPS from out of county or state. Using the chart below, most ninth-grade students earn a minimum of nine SSL hours so an incoming 10th grader's hours are pro-rated at 54 hours $45 + 9 = 54$.

Grade	Pro-rated Hours
1 st Semester 9th	45 (9)
1 st Semester 10th	54 (9)
1 st Semester 11th	63 (9)
1 st Semester 12	67.5 (4.5)
2 nd Semester 12	70.5

FCPS has also established a maximum number of hours that can be transferred to high school. These allows for additional system accountability to ensure a minimum number of hours are earned through FCPS.

Maximum Transfer Hours

Grade	Maximum Transfer Hours
9	45
10	58
11	70
12 (1 st Semester)	70
12 (2 nd Semester)	70.5

To meet the **MSDE Student Service Learning Graduation Requirement** all student records must reflect a minimum of 75 hours of Student Service Learning.

