

STUDENT ACTIVITIES  
COMMENCEMENT

FMH-R

VOLUNTEER  
SERVICE HOURS

The following guidelines address the requirement that all Ysleta ISD students earn a total of 80 volunteer services hours in order to participate in commencement ceremonies at the conclusion of their senior year. It is recommended that students earn a minimum of 20 volunteer service hours per year.

Volunteer hour requirements shall be waived for all students graduating in the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19 related city closures. The requirement for volunteer service hours will be reevaluated beginning in 2021-2022 to determine accessibility of volunteer facilities. Additional options for earning volunteer service hours will also be revised annually.

DEFINITION

Volunteer service to the community shall be defined as service performed for approved persons, organizations or agencies outside of the student's home and/or family. The services shall be performed without monetary compensation and hours shall be accumulated in the form of time spent. Services shall not be performed as part of the regular school day, unless students are participating in a school sponsored school/community service project. Volunteer service hours earned through participation in school-based student organizations that perform community service is permissible.

TIMELINE

Students entering the Ysleta ISD after the beginning of each new school year are subject to fulfilling the accumulated volunteer service hour requirement as follows:

- Students may begin accumulating service hours for each school year after the last day of instruction for the previous year, and prior to May 1, of the current school year.
- The superintendent may approve student volunteer service hours beyond May 1 and up to the day before graduation ceremonies based on extenuating circumstances on a case by case basis.

TRANSFER  
STUDENTS

- A student enrolling before January 1 of the current school year must complete all accumulated volunteer community service hour requirements as if they had entered on the first day of school (i.e. student entering before January 1 of 11<sup>th</sup> grade would be required to earn 40 accumulated hours of volunteer service to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies at the end of their senior year.
- Students in grades 9-12 transferring from one high school to another within the district will also transfer their volunteer service hours accumulated to that point.