Student Service-Learning Overview
2017 - 2018
Objectives

By the end of today’s session, participants will receive information on the following:

- The Basics of Student Service-Learning (SSL)
- Earning Hours in Class and Outside of Class
- Where Hours Can be Earned
- SSL Restrictions
- SSL Documents
The Purpose of Student Service-Learning

Service-Learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum-based learning. Students improve their academic skills by applying what they learn in school to the real world; they then reflect on their experience to reinforce the link between their service and their learning.
The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has 7 Best Practices of Service-Learning (right) that align to the 7 National K-12 Service-Learning Standards for Quality of Practice (left).
Students are required to earn a **total of 75 hours** in Maryland.

**51 hours** are “infused” into the Science and Social Studies curricula for Grades 5-10 in PGCPS.  
*To earn infused service-learning hours, students must:*
  1. actively engage in all service activities in the class; and
  2. earn a letter grade of at least a “D.”

**24 hours** are to be earned independently.  
*Independent service-learning hours are service-learning hours that are independently earned at a community-based site that is chosen by the student.*
PGCPS “Infused” Service-Learning Hours for Students
Service-Learning has been infused into the Science and Social Studies curricula for Grades 5-10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>DEPT.</th>
<th>COURSE NAME</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Grade 5 Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Grade 6 Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>World Cultures and Geography I: The Western Hemisphere</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Grade 7 Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>World Cultures and Geography II: The Eastern Hemisphere</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Grade 8 Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>United States History I: The Revolution to Reconstruction</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>United States History II: Reconstruction to the Present</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Integrating the Sciences</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Local, State, and National Government</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 51
For “Infused” Service-Learning hours:

NO FORMS ARE NEEDED BY THE TEACHER OR THE STUDENT.

The hours are credited automatically in SchoolMAX once the student passes the course.
Specifically for 6th grade science students, the Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) lesson is the infused project. Students will learn how FOG impacts our water systems. This lesson connects to our real-world.

The FOG Lesson is taught during 3rd quarter (January 26 - March 28, 2018).

This lesson is MANDATORY FOR ALL 6TH GRADE SCIENCE TEACHERS

Students in grades 7 and 8 will also complete a science SSL project.

FOG: Don’t Pour Fats, Oils or Greases Down the Drain

Fats, Oils and Grease are a by-product of cooking; either made from fried foods, cooked meat, cooking oils, or dairy products, FOG are in constant supply. As these contaminants are poured down the drain, they can clog pipes, restricting the flow of water. As a result, sewer back-ups and overflows occur creating health hazards and harmful impacts on the environment, sometimes even entering stormwater drains flowing into streams or oceans. These contaminants can cause a depletion of oxygen residing within natural waterways causing harm to the aquatic life dependent on the oxygen.
“Independent” Service-Learning Hours for Students
What are the steps for the student to earn “Independent” hours?

FIRST: (PREPARATION) Consider what activity you want to do or what specific organization you want to work with. SSL activities can be done with nonprofit, for-profit, tax-exempt, private, and faith-based organizations/facilities (but regardless of the organization, the service-learning activity must be an approved activity).

NEXT: Check the M-NCPCC (Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission) Volunteer Office for a list of sites.

NEXT: (ACTION) If the organization and activities are...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Approved</th>
<th>Not Pre-Approved</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact the organization and volunteer to serve.</td>
<td>Complete a Service-Learning Site Approval Form and submit it to your SSL Coordinator for approval PRIOR TO BEGINNING service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in the SSL activity.</td>
<td>Upon receiving approval from the SSL Coordinator, participate in the SSL activity.</td>
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</table>

NEXT: (REFLECTION) Complete a SSL Verification Form to document service performed in the summer or within each semester service is done.

LAST: Turn completed Verification Form into School-Based Service-Learning Coordinator by September 30 for summer service or by the end of each semester in which service is done for SSL hours to be reflected in SchoolMAX or on your official transcript. If you need help, contact the School-Based Service-Learning Coordinator at your school!

The student should check with the School-Based Service-Learning Coordinator to confirm that hours have been recorded. For more information, visit http://www1.pgcps.org/ssl/ or call 301-952-6395.
SSL activities can be done with nonprofit, for-profit, tax-exempt, private, and faith-based organizations/facilities.

*But regardless of the organization – the service-learning specific activity must be an approved activity. (Please refer to Administrative Procedure 6151 for more information.)

Students **cannot** be paid when they are participating in service-learning activities.
Students Earning “Independent” Hours (Out of the Classroom)

Students must complete 24 independent service-learning hours between Grades 6-12.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>EXPECTED HOURS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 24</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 24</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Examples of “Independent” Service-Learning Opportunities for Students

**LIBRARIES:** Many of the public libraries have programs designed to allow students to participate and earn service-learning hours.

**DAY CARE FACILITIES:** Students must be working directly with children to promote healthy child development. Acceptable activities may include reading to/with children, assisting with arts and crafts, supervising recreation time, completion of learning activities that provide school readiness, tutoring, etc.

**TEACHER’S AIDE:** Direct service for other students such as tutoring or creating educational displays or resources. Students may also work within the school office, library or with the school nurse provided the experience still meets the MSDE 7 Best Practices (see slide #4).

**SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY-BASED PERFORMANCE ACTIVITIES:** If the group is voluntarily performing in public (e.g., community parade or event, performing at a senior citizen center during the holidays) then students can earn service-learning hours for their service.

**WORKING FOR INDIVIDUALS:** With appropriate preparation and reflection on the issue affecting your neighbor, this may be turned into a service-learning project. Students or parents should speak with the school service-learning coordinator to see if an activity could be developed into a quality service-learning experience.
When can students engage in “Independent” Service-Learning Opportunities?

Independent Service-Learning hours **CAN ONLY** be conducted:
- Before School Hours
- After School Hours
- Holidays
- Weekends

Independent Service-Learning hours **CAN NOT** be conducted:
- During School Hours
These forms can be retrieved at PGCPS Service-Learning Website

http://www.pgcps.org/ssl/
Student Service-Learning Verification Form
(AFTER SERVICE-LEARNING COMPLETED)
*All forms must be placed in the student’s cumulative folder.

These forms can be retrieved at PGCPS Service-Learning Website
http://www.pgcps.org/ssl/
Once you visit the site, click on the various titles to see additional information about Service-Learning.
Thank You!

For more information on Service-Learning, visit the PGCPS Service-Learning Website [http://www.pgcps.org/ssl/](http://www.pgcps.org/ssl/) & Maryland State Department of Education Service-Learning Website [https://tinyurl.com/MSDESSLOpportunities](https://tinyurl.com/MSDESSLOpportunities)
Q & A