

NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. McCarthy-Redd, Student Service Learning Coordinator, Counseling Department

WHAT IS STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)?

- ❖ A Maryland State Department of Education high school diploma requirement
- ❖ A teaching method that combines academic instruction, meaningful service, and critical reflective thinking
- ❖ Activities involving phases of preparation, action, and reflection
- ❖ Indirect, direct, and advocacy opportunities

WHY IS SSL A DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT IN MARYLAND?

- ❖ To strengthen character through civic engagement and political involvement
- ❖ To encourage a habit of community involvement and responsibility
- ❖ To promote involvement in activities that address community needs through service work ethic

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ If you earn 240 hours or more, you can receive a **Certificate of Meritorious Service at Graduation**.
 - SSL overview: <https://tinyurl.com/SSLonVUE>
 - Check website for organizations and activities that on the **APPROVAL LIST**
 <https://tinyurl.com/SSLHubMCPS>
 - SSL organizations: <https://tinyurl.com/SSLOrganizations>
- ❖ If a service is **NOT** listed as an approved MCPS SSL activity, you must complete a **Request APPROVAL FORM:**
<https://tinyurl.com/SSLPreApproval>
- ❖ ALL students are required to complete **75 SSL HOURS**

NOW WHAT?

(Before Completing Service)

- 1) Select the type of service you wish to complete.
- 2) Find an organization with which to serve: Check website <https://tinyurl.com/SSLOrganizations> to see if organization is on the approved list.
- 3) **If approved: - Complete service.**
If NOT approved: Must complete the Application of Student Service-Learning Request Activity form:
<https://tinyurl.com/SSLPreApproval>
 - a) **Have form signed by organization, including the tax id number**
 - b) Return form to Ms. McCarthy-Redd in the Counseling Office
 - c) Once approved, complete service

(After Completing Service)

- 1) Obtain a <https://tinyurl.com/SSLHoursForm> **Student Service-Learning Activity verification form** found in the counseling Dept or website:
- 2) Complete Student information and reflection statement
- 3) Have supervisor fill out the organization information section
- 4) Return verification forms to Ms. McCarthy-Redd, in the Counseling Office
- 5) The hours will show up on your report card, and you can review them under Student Vue

DEADLINE FOR TURNING IN DOCUMENTATION TO THE SSL COORDINATOR IS THE:

- **LAST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER FOR SUMMER HOURS**
- **FIRST FRIDAY IN JANUARY FOR FIRST SEMESTER**
- **LAST FRIDAY IN MAY FOR SECOND SEMESTER**

All SSL forms must be submitted by the LAST FRIDAY IN MAY.