

New Community Service Requirement for Graduation

Current 9th Grade Students/Class of 2027

Pursuant to Act 237 of 2023, AR LEARNS, all current 9th grade students who are set to graduate in the academic year 2026-2027 or beyond, are required to complete a minimum of seventy-five **(75)** clock hours of documented community service prior to graduation. Act 237 does not place a minimum community service hour requirement per grade level or a limit on the number of hours a student can earn towards the 75 hours in a year. For example, a student that earns 30 hours in 9th grade and 45 hours their sophomore year will have completed the required 75 hours prior to graduation.

Community Service Guidelines

Community service refers to activities carried out by individual students or groups of students to enhance and contribute to their local community. These activities can take place within Arkansas or outside of Arkansas, as long as they receive approval from the district administration. Students are required to provide details about their community service projects, including their preparation, actions, and reflections.

Suggestions for earning community service hours....

- Join a service organization such as Key club, Leo club, or Interact and participate in opportunities to volunteer.
- Watch the student bulletin and your school email for announcements.
- Many churches and other community groups offer opportunities for community service.

How do students document community service?

- Students may ask their advisory teacher for the form.
- Students may pick up a form in the SHS counselor's office.
- Visit stuttgartschools.org - Stuttgart High School - Students.

Once hours have been earned and documented, what next?

- Students should return the completed form to their advisory teacher or the SHS counselor's office.