

# **RN-BSN Program: Community Service Guidelines and Reporting Procedure**

## **Definition of Community Service:**

A method under which students actively participate in organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of community. It is motivated by their program/school at the Health Sciences Center and the community/agency representative. This service activity helps foster civic responsibility and may be integrated into and enhance the academic curriculum of the students.

## **Requirements:**

Community service is required of all Health Sciences students, including part-time and full-time undergraduate students. It is expected that a minimum of 25 hours will be completed during a student's rural health experience but only the community service, not the clinical or research activities, will count toward meeting requirements.

Undergraduate basic students entering Fall 2000 and after must complete 100 hours of community service. (25 hours of community service earned in Nursing 445)

During enrollment, RN to BSN students must complete 25 hours of community service.

BA/BS to BSN during enrollment, students must complete 50 hours of community service (25 hours of community service earned in Nursing 445)

## **Learning Objectives:**

- To foster civic responsibility.
- To enhance the hands-on learning experience of the student.
- To assist the student in identifying and meeting health and social needs of the community.

## **Examples of Acceptable Community Service:**

(Note: these examples are not an all-inclusive list of agencies and activities that are acceptable for community service.)

- Read-aloud program at a school
- Health Education sessions in a school or community
- Visiting the elderly (i.e., nursing homes, hospitals, etc.)

- Activities through churches, sororities, fraternities, etc., (i.e. Adopt- A-Highway)
- Working with youth soccer, baseball, basketball, etc.

### **Examples of Agencies:**

- Habitat for Humanity (building homes for people without shelter)
- Hospice
- WV Health Right
- Ronald McDonald House
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- American Red Cross and blood donation centers
- Salvation Army
- Health Fair
- Asthma and Diabetic camps
- Youth development camps (i.e., 4-H)

### **Procedure:**

- The student completes the community service under appropriate supervision.
- A person in the community must sign-off indicating that the service was performed satisfactorily.
- The student enters the community service hours in SOLE, at <http://sole.hsc.wvu.edu>
- The Student Services Office records approval in SOLE
- Students may receive community service hours for a donation of goods or money to a charitable organization. No more than 1 hour of community service may be earned for a donation, regardless of the size of the donation. One half hour may be earned for a donation of \$5-10; one hour may be earned for donations of \$10 or more. No more than 10% of community service hours may be earned through donations.