

Jesuit High School Christian Service Program

# Student Responsibilities and Requirements

## “at a glance”

*Christian Service has been a powerful learning experience for students at Jesuit High School. Our goal is that this continues for all students. The requirement is more than just completing hours. It is participating in the educational and spiritual exploration of service and how it relates to social justice in our world. The following is a basic overview of the Christian Service program and requirements for students. (Page references are for the student's Christian Service Journal.)*

Before beginning the Christian Service Requirement:

- Students must have completed sophomore year. (The summer after sophomore year is the earliest a student could start.)
- Students must complete an **orientation** to the program taught by the Christian Service Faculty, normally done at the beginning of the second semester of a student's sophomore year.
- Students must “forecast” for their service deadline, choosing their service ending date from September 1st, December 1st or May 1st for a given school year. (This deadline will also determine when the student takes the semester long Peace and Justice Religion course, either semester 1 or semester 2 for their junior or senior year. Peace and Justice is required for all students.) Review the "service opportunities" list at [www.jesuitportland.com](http://www.jesuitportland.com), found under the "academics" section.

*Note: In choosing/forecasting her or his deadline, a student registers for the Christian Service course, a graded but “non-meeting” course (no classroom), focusing on learning about social justice from the people the student will serve. The course carries one semester credit and is fully weighed into a student's GPA. The text for the course is the Christian Service Journal, purchased by the student for \$5. The overall course grade is composed of the student's performance in the orientation, work, journal and paper. (see Journal, page 6) If a student does not meet their chosen service work deadline, they could fail the course.*

To fulfill the requirement:

- Every student must do the following: complete a minimum of **65 hours** of service at an approved placement, working directly with people marginalized by society (see Journal, page 8); complete the guided **journal** reflection, turned in every 15 hours of work (provided school is in session); complete a five page **paper**. (See Journal, page 54)
- It is expected that the student will work at one placement for the entire experience, unless unavoidable circumstances prohibit this from happening. (For example, the agency closes, or the experience as a whole is less than 65 hours.)
- All **assignments** to be “turned-in” (i.e. the contract, the journal, the paper, extra credit) must be brought to Room 41 in Arrupe Hall, the Christian Service Office, and placed in the indicated box, usually the box on the Christian Service Office door. Graded assignments can be picked up in Room 41.
- While on-site, at their placement, students are expected to **follow the rules and regulations** of the school and of the agency or program. If a student is “fired” or asked to leave their placement, they will not receive any credit for the hours worked at that agency. (see Journal, page 11)

For any service hours to be counted toward the requirement the following must occur:

1. The student must turn in a **Christian Service Contract** for the planned hours, signed by the on-site supervisor at the service placement, the student and a parent. The contract must be received before work starts, or not later than within the first five hours of service. (see Journal, page 10)
  2. The student must ensure that an “hour sheet” or other form of **record of hours** is being kept at the placement. If it is the student's responsibility to sign in, then hours will not be credited unless this sheet is signed on each visit. (see page 59)
  3. The student must write **journal reflection entries** each day that they work, following the “hours worked guide” in the journal. (see Journal, page 27)
  4. The student must demonstrate what he or she learned from the service experience by writing a comprehensive **final paper**, incorporating all service experiences if there have been multiple placements. The final paper is a thesis paper, using the student's experiences to support and demonstrate what he or she learned and can apply to his or her life. (see page 54)
  5. There must be an **evaluation** of the hours completed. This evaluation is the responsibility of the Christian Service Office and the on-site supervisor. (see Journal, page 7)
- Any questions, please contact Mr. Scott Powers Christian Service Director at (503) 291-5463.