

Community Service Learning

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Welcome to Community Service Learning!

Mississippi Valley State University's Office of Community Service Learning invites you to actively participate in our program. Most importantly, we hope that your community service/service learning experience will foster you in developing a lifelong commitment to civic engagement and the work of building the community wherever and whenever you can. Thank you for your continued support and commitment in fulfilling our mission!

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ABOUT page



“LIVE FOR SERVICE” is more than just our motto; it’s a way of life!

Among Mississippi Valley State University’s most impressive points of prides is its Community Service/Service Learning component that requires students to assist Delta communities and surrounding through tutoring, mentoring and other volunteer work. Each MVSU student is required to complete service projects each semester. Unmatched by any other Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning, this program boasts more than 60,000 community service hours per year since its inception in 2003.

About

Community Service/Service Learning is a campus-based, service-learning program at Mississippi Valley State University and designed to directly and demonstrably benefit the communities served and the students who provide service. It is a program whereby participants learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community, or community service program; helps to foster civic responsibility; and provides structured time for the participants to reflect on the service experience. Service learning links the work students do in the classroom to real-world problems and real-world needs. Selected courses throughout the academic offering incorporate service into course curriculum. These courses will be designated on the class schedule by (SL). Hours accumulated for service-learning transfer into community service hours and should be submitted to the Community Service Learning Office by the deadline notated on the University calendar.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to support the development of Mississippi Valley State University's service-learning component and community service graduation requirement to the benefit of both the community served and the students who serve. We take our mission seriously and work to ensure that our students have excellent opportunities to pursue learning that reveals the truth, promotes compassionate service, and enhances their desire to participate in the creation of a more just and humane world.

The motto, "Live for Service," clearly defines the role that MVSU and the Office of Community Service Learning have played in developing collaborative partnerships with various constituents and agencies to provide opportunities for our students to develop an understanding and awareness of the importance of civic engagement and responsible citizenry.

REQUIREMENTS page



Community Service Learning

Since 2003, community service is a graduation requirement for Mississippi Valley State students. Students must satisfy a minimum of 15 hours per year, for a total of 60 hours required for graduation. Transfer students are required to complete 40 hours of service. All community service activities, whether completed during the regular school year or during vacation periods, must have prior approval from the [Coordinator of Community Service Learning](#).

Community Service Learning has been established into the Banner System. Therefore, all students are encouraged to register for Community Service. While it is not a class, it will be reflected on a student's course schedule until the hours have been completed.

Hours accumulated for community service should be submitted to the [Community Service/Service Learning Office](#) by the deadline for submission that will be listed on the University calendar. No pending time sheets will be verified after that date. Appropriate forms will be made available to students for documentation of service.

Please Note: *Applications and contracts for Community Service Learning may be found under the [Forms](#) link. Contact us for a list of community partners and agencies. Community Service hours are not required for students enrolled prior to Fall 2003.*

Community Service Requirement

Freshman Year 15 hours (7.5 hours per semester)

Sophomore Year 15 hours (7.5 hours per semester)

Community Service Requirement

Junior Year 15 hours (7.5 hours per semester)

Senior Year 15 hours (7.5 hours per semester)

Total Hours 60 hours

Transfer students will be required to complete 40 community service hours as a graduation requirement.

For questions, contact us at servicelearning@mvsu.edu.

FORMS Page

Community Service Learning Forms

Click the form below to download. Completed forms can be dropped off at the Office of Community Service/Service Learning during normal University business hours or e-mailed to servicelearning@mvsu.edu.

[Community Service Form](#)

[Community Service Learning Registration Form](#)

[Community Service Partnership MOA](#)

[Agency Partnerships Evaluation Form](#)

[Community Service Tracking Form](#)

[Community Service Group Timesheet](#)

[Service Learning Placement Confirmation Agreement](#)

[Service Learning Agency Evaluation](#)

[Student Reflection and Evaluation](#)

PARTNERS Page

Please Note: *Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some of the listed volunteer opportunities may no longer be available. Please contact the Office of Community Service Learning for updates.*

If you are an MVSU Department or external agency interested in partnering with the Office Community Service Learning, please contact us at servicelearning@mvsu.edu

External Partners



For the past few years, **Habitat for Humanity** has partnered with MVSU's Community Service Learning program during the Spring Semester as part of the Spring Break Away Alternative Projects. Past projects include CSL assisting with building a Humanity home for a family in Tutwiler, Mississippi.

Habitat for Humanities is an ongoing project. Volunteer slots are available on weekends. If you would like to sign-up to volunteer, please come by the Community Service Learning Office.



The **Greenwood Mentoring Group's Learning Center** has partnered with CSL for volunteers to assist with the Summer Reading Program. During the school year, volunteers are needed to help mentor after school children with homework, study skills, etc. The center offers a flexible schedule to fit the needs of volunteers. The hours of mentoring are Monday through Thursday from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Interested volunteers may sign up in the CSL office or by contacting Bill Clay at 662-455-1195.



Riverview Nursing Home has partnered with CSL for volunteers to assist with the residents of the Nursing Home. Volunteers will assist the staff with activities program, spend quality time with the residents, talking with them, reading to them and individual activities. Hours available are from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. daily and volunteers can work to fit their schedule. To sign-up contact the CSL office or Tori Harris at (662) 453-8140.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

The Boys and Girls Club located in Greenwood, Mississippi has partnered with the Community Service Learning Office for students to volunteer throughout the year. Students can participate with them at any time by contacting them at the information listed below:

Unit Director: Synthia Hoover
Address: 1740 Carrollton Ave., Greenwood, MS 38935
Phone: 662-645-9230
Email: greenwoodud@bgcmsdelta.org

On-Campus Partners

MVSU CAMPUS VIOLENCE PROGRAM

Contact Person:

Location: Annex II

Phone: (662) 254-8406

MVSU HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM (HEP)

Contact Person: Dr. Tara Self, Director

Location: L.S. Rodgers Building

Phone: 662-254-3467

EVENTS page

This page will be updated with upcoming events as they become available. For inquiries, please e-mail servicelearning@mvsu.edu.