Community Service: Voluntary work that benefits a particular community or addresses a need within that community; providing services that give back to the community at large.

**If you are volunteering in your home town, please let us know a head of time so we can verify this for your hours. Also, if there is a site you would like to volunteer for that is not on this list, please contact us at service@niu.edu.**

Does Count for Service Hours:

- Volunteering at a community organization (refer to “Volunteer Sites” document) i.e. Feed 'em Soup, Tails, Hope Haven
- Meetings with Peer Mentor, Fellows, Site Supervisor, or Cohort Coordinator
- Cohort Meetings
- Hours at Campus Partner Site
- Volunteering at any campus events – let your supervisor know if you are volunteering with another office/department.
- Volunteering for an organization in home town (i.e. Church, schools, etc.)
  * If you are volunteering in your hometown or at the location not currently on our volunteer site list, contact cohort coordinator in advance.
- Attending approved lectures/presentations that discuss civics, community service, volunteerism (ex: topic could be “Getting Involved in the Community”)
- Volunteering at required events:
  - STEM fest
  - Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week
  - MLK Week
  - NIU Cares Day
  - Community Engagement Showcase
- Volunteer opportunities provided by campus partner or OSEEL staff
- Tutoring/mentoring youth through approved NIU program.
- Time spent blogging
- Donating blood
- Time spent working on CES project

Does NOT Count for Service Hours

- Helping out/ tutoring a classmate/peer one-on-one
- Attending a student organization/ club meeting or event
- Attending a university event that you are not a volunteer for
- Volunteering without providing a contact to approve the service hours
- Doing other work in the Site office that does not help the office or the community. I.e. homework
- Travel time (to and from events)