

West Virginia Northern Community College

Public School Service Program

Rule Number: NC-4015

Effective Date: March 1, 2011

Date Approved by WVNCC Board of Governors: February 24, 2011

Authority Reference: WV Code §18B-2A-5

Replaces previous rule dated: NA

Rule:

This rule provides for students who volunteer in public schools, in certain capacities, to earn college credit at West Virginia Northern Community College. The intent is to instill in public school students the benefits of postsecondary education. This rule applies to students who are currently enrolled at West Virginia Northern Community College. Public schools are tuition free schools in the United States supported by taxes and controlled by a school board.

West Virginia Northern Community College will grant college credit toward graduation for service to public school students in the capacity of tutor, mentor, or student advisor. General elective credit will be granted for service to public preschool, elementary, middle, and secondary schools. Students will be granted one hour of credit for each 30 hours of documented service up to a maximum of three (3) credit hours.

Service must be pre-approved and must be performed during the semester for which it was approved. Students must abide by and follow all policies and procedures of the designated public school required for entry and permission to interact with students, during and after the volunteer experience. This may include signing a confidentiality agreement, having a required background check, fingerprinting, drug testing, or medical testing, which may be at the student's expense. Students who have been convicted of a felony of any kind, and/or a misdemeanor involving illegal substances or charges involving violence, abuse, or assault or institutional student code of conduct violation may be ineligible for volunteer service in public school settings.

WVNCC students who must complete an internship as part of their academic program will not be permitted to count public service hours under this rule toward fulfillment of the required number of hours for their internship experience. Furthermore, students receiving credit for an internship or practicum experience in a public school or educational setting as part of their academic program may request credit under this public service rule only if the documented hours of service are beyond the minimum number of hours required for their internship.

It is the responsibility of the student to research, with the appropriate faculty or institutional representative, and determine the viability of applying public service credits earned towards WVNCC program requirements, elective requirements, or transfer.

The institution shall not be responsible for placement of students in a public school for the purpose of performing service and receiving credit under this policy. The College accepts no responsibility or liability for the performance of the student completing public service under this rule while in the public school setting.