

Community Service Defined

Chapter FFA Degree

To receive a chapter FFA degree, a member must complete **10 hours** of community service activities.

The community service hours must be in addition to hours spent on paid or unpaid SAE projects. The hours cannot serve a dual purpose in fulfilling both community service and SAE requirements.

State FFA Degree

To receive a state FFA degree, members must complete at least **25 hours** of community service in a minimum of two different activities.

The community service hours must be in addition to hours spent on paid or unpaid SAE projects. The hours cannot serve a dual purpose in fulfilling both community service and SAE requirements.

American FFA Degree Requirements

To receive an American FFA degree, members must complete at least **50 hours** of community service in a minimum of three different activities.

The community service hours must be in addition to hours spent on paid or unpaid SAE projects. The hours cannot serve a dual purpose in fulfilling both community service and SAE requirements. These hours also may not be duplicated to fulfill the Directed Lab requirement. All hours must take place outside of regularly scheduled class time.

Community Service Hours Requirement FAQs

Are the American FFA degree community service hours cumulative?

Yes.

For example, you can add the 10 hours earned while obtaining your chapter degree to the 15 hours earned while obtaining your state degree. You can then add those 25 hours and an additional 25 hours to reach the 50 hours required for your American FFA Degree.

10 chapter degree hours + 15 additional hours = 25 state degree hours
25 state degree hours + 25 additional hours = 50 American degree hours

What types of activities count as "Community Service?"

Defining Community Service:

Community service engages students in the educational process, allowing them to use practices they learn in the classroom to make a difference in real life. Students not only learn about democracy and citizenship, they become actively contributing citizens and community members through the service they perform.

Use this definition as a guide to determine if a given activity meets the community service requirements. An activity must meet all of the following criteria in order to be approved as community service:

1. The activity has tangible community involvement.
2. Students have an opportunity to gain skills and competencies or apply skills and competencies learned in the classroom setting.
3. The activity has a demonstrated positive impact on the community, or individuals who live and work in the community.
4. The student gives of his/her time, energy or knowledge through activities focused on helping others, improving community resources or improving community infrastructure.
5. The community service activity can be organized by the FFA chapter; however, it must be performed outside of classroom time.
6. Activities listed as community service cannot be duplicated in the FFA activities section of the application. Student may only list the activity in one section of the application.

When using this definition, consider this example:

Participating on a school athletic team is a school related activity, but it is not community service. Volunteering as a Little League, Pop Warner Football or soccer team coach would be acceptable. The American Degree application states a community service must be a non-FFA activity. Keep in mind it can be organized by the FFA chapter, but must be conducted outside of classroom hours.

Requirement:

Chapter Degree:	10 community service hours
State Degree:	25 community service hours (a minimum of 2 different activities)
National Degree:	50 community service hours (a minimum of 3 different activities)

These hours can be cumulative. State Degree needs 15 more community service hours than the chapter degree and the American degree needs 25 more community service hours.