Rougher 300 - Honoring Community Service

In its work to create both lifelong learners and lifelong citizens, and in cooperation with the Muskogee Chamber of Commerce and the Muskogee Nonprofit Resource Center, Muskogee High School has created an honor for those students dedicated to serving their community. Students who serve 300 or more hours of service over the course of their studies at MHS will be designated as Rougher 300 honorees during their graduation commencement ceremony.

In order for MHS students to be granted service hours to qualify for the Rougher 300, the following criteria must be met:

- Service activities are done on behalf of others (not including immediate family members or Court mandated hours).

- The primary intent of the activity is to aid and assist others for the good of the community and mankind.

- No compensation (grade, class credit, monetary or other) has been given.

- Service activities may be done outside the school day, during unscheduled time, or certain activities done within the school day that are voluntary and not tied to academics (activities approved by the selection committee).

- The acts of service must promote the values incorporated in the Muskogee High School Mission Statement.

In keeping with these criteria, contributions that students make to both the school and the greater community can be recognized for entry into the Rougher 300.

In addition to recognition of seniors who have achieved at least 300 hours, they are given cords to wear during graduation, and the Chamber, the Nonprofit Resource Center, and MHS have partnered to recognize all students who meet certain benchmarks in community service. All students with a minimum of 75 hours per grade level are honored at a banquet hosted in the spring. The benchmarks begin in the freshmen year; a student who earns a minimum of 75 hours is eligible, sophomores with 150, juniors with 225, and finally seniors with 300 hours collectively qualify to attend. Additionally, the senior girl and boy with the highest number of hours is eligible for a financial award, this is given at the spring banquet.

Applications for the Rougher 300 honor are due no later than the Monday after Spring Break!
Application for Admission to the Rougher 300

Name: ___________________________ Grade Level: ____________

In order for Muskogee High School students to be granted service hours in the Rougher 300, the following criteria must be met:

☐ Service activities are done on behalf of others (not including immediate family members or Court mandated hours.)
☐ No compensation (grade, class credit, monetary or other) has been given.
☐ Service activities may be done outside the school day, during unscheduled time, or certain activities done within the school day that are voluntary and not tied to academics (activities approved by the selection committee).
☐ The primary intent of the activity is to aid and assist others for the good of the community.
☐ The acts of service must promote the values incorporated in the Muskogee High School Mission Statement.

By checking each box above, I confirm that all of my service activities meet the definition of service as defined by the Rougher 300.

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Rougher 300 - Frequently Asked Questions

What activities count toward Rougher 300 hours?

- Voluntary service in which the primary intent is to aid and assist others (not including immediate family members) for the good of the community. These activities should promote the values incorporated in the Muskogee High School Mission Statement.

Do activities done during the school day count?

- Certain activities done within the school day that are voluntary and not tied to academics, they must be activities approved by the selection committee. In addition, compensation (including grades, class credit and money) cannot be provided for eligible service work.

Are all students, Freshmen through Seniors, eligible for Rougher 300 recognition?

- Yes, but the same criteria apply to all students.

Are National Honor Society and STUCO service hours eligible for Rougher 300 recognition?

- Yes, as long as the hours meet the aforementioned requirements.

Who keeps track of the hours?

- Each student must keep track of their hours.

When should students get verification forms signed?

- It is recommended that each student get the forms signed as each volunteer activity is completed.

Where can students get the forms and applications?

- Students should get the forms off of the MHS website on the Rougher 300 tab or in the Main Office.

How will Rougher 300 honorees be recognized?

These are the benchmarks that students may strive toward:

1) Students who document at least 75 hours of qualifying community service will receive recognition by being invited to the honor banquet in the spring.

2) Seniors who have a least 300 hours of community service will receive the recognition listed above and will have their names recorded permanently as members of the Rougher 300. These elite students will also be honored at their Commencement Ceremony by wearing special cords.
Rougher 300 - Application Instructions

How to complete the application:

- Every applicant must complete the entire application.
- A separate verification form must be completed for each activity.
- Include only those activities since entering high school.
- Avoid the use of acronyms so the selection committee can understand the group discussed.
- Volunteer activities may occur at or outside MHS. Hours during the school day must be approved by the Selection Committee. A member of the selection committee will verify participation in the activities listed on the application and any erroneous or inaccurate information will result in disqualification from recognition.
- Generally speaking, service activities are those which are done on behalf of others (not including immediate family members or Court mandated hours) for which no compensation (monetary or other) has been given. Any school, community, or religious activity in which service has been offered without pay during the high school years and outside the school day (some exceptions apply) may be included.

1. Complete the verification forms for any volunteer work the meets the criteria described above.
2. Share any stories or experiences (on a separate piece of paper) or submit photos of you in action as a volunteer.
3. Create a packet containing the cover page, application, and verification forms.
4. Submit a copy of the completed application to the Main Office no later than the Monday after Spring Break.

Important Information Regarding the Selection Process
The applications are read and evaluated by a selection committee comprised of administrators, faculty and community individuals. There is no minimum or maximum number of candidates selected for recognition; rather all who are judged to meet the criteria are accepted.
Application for Community Service Recognition

This application is to be completed by those students who have met the requirements for recognition into the Rougher 300 and are interested in receiving recognition for exceptional community service. Please be sure the hours satisfy all of the expectations.

Name: _______________________________ Grade Level: ______________

Number of hours volunteered (75 hours minimum - please list all that apply):

- Hours volunteered through STUCO: __________
  o *Must complete verification form signed by STUCO Sponsor

- Hours volunteered through MHS clubs/organizations other than STUCO: __________
  o *Must complete verification form signed by Sponsor(s)

- Hours volunteered outside of MHS: __________
  o *Must complete a verification form for each activity

Total number of hours volunteered: __________

I verify the above information is true and the hours listed were volunteered on my own time and benefited the community and/or MHS.

Student Signature ___________________________ Date ______________

I verify my son/daughter volunteered the above hours and did NOT receive money or credit for his/her contribution to the community. The hours were also volunteered outside of the school day.

Parent/Guardian Signature ___________________________ Date ______________

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Muskogee High School Community Service Verification Form
(A separate form must be completed for each activity.)

The following form should be completed by the student and signed by the individual verifying the activity, this form is due with the submission of the application and hours log.

I hereby certify that:
(Student Name) ___________________________ a (Grade Level) ________________ at MHS completed a total of ________ volunteer hours on (Date) ________________ .

Print Name and Title of person verifying activity for verification purposes:
(Name) ________________________________ (Title) ________________________________

Signature of person verifying activity: ________________________________
(Signature indicates approval.)

Name of Organization/Business: ________________________________
Phone Number for Organization/Business: ________________________________

Description of community service performed (Must be voluntary service – court appointed does not qualify):
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