



Community Service and Self-Sufficiency Requirement

The Community Service and Self-Sufficiency Requirement (CSR) is mandated under the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. Under this act Congress requires all adults (except those that meet federal exemptions specified below) living in public housing to:

1. Contribute 8 hours per month of community service; or
2. Participate in an economic self-sufficiency program for 8 hours per month; or
3. Perform 8 hours per month of combined activities (community service and self-sufficiency)

Community Service has been defined as the performance of voluntary work or duties in the public benefit that serves to improve the quality of life and/or enhance resident self-sufficiency and/or increase the self-responsibility of the residents with the community. Community service is not employment and may not include political activities.

Persons who are exempt from the community service requirement are as follows:

- Elderly Persons: anyone who is 62 years of age or older
- Person who is Blind or Disabled: anyone who is a person with a disability and who certifies that they are unable to comply with the community service requirement due to their disability.
- Primary Caretaker of a Person who is Blind or Disabled: anyone who is the primary caretaker of a person who is blind or disabled
- Engaged in Work Activities: anyone who, at least 30 hours per week, is engaged in work activities such as (but not limited to) employment, attending high school, or attending a program to get a GED/vocational training
- Exempt from Work Requirements by State Program: someone who is receiving TANF or benefits from a state welfare program and exempt from work requirements
- Member of a Family Receiving State Benefits: member of a household where at least one person is receiving state benefits such as TANF or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, also known as “food stamps”) assistance

Community Service Volunteer Time Sheets are available under the forms section.