

SOCIAL SERVICES CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Social Services Achievements

Name: _____

(Certification: Adult leaders must initial and date each completed achievement.)

Do nine of the following:

- 1a. Interview a teacher, guidance counselor, or administrator to find out what attracted that person to a profession in education.
Completed _____
- 1b. Find out what education is required to be a teacher, a guidance counselor, and an administrator. Also find out about the availability of teaching positions in your community and state.
Completed _____
- 2a. Research the correlation between student achievement and teacher expectation. Example: Do teachers expect less from low-income students? Do teachers' high expectations produce high performance levels regardless of social or economic standing?
Completed _____
- 2b. Using your findings, make a tabletop display or presentation to a group, such as your post, another post, or other community group.
Completed _____
- 3a. Find out what it takes to be a foreign exchange student or to host a foreign exchange student.
Completed _____
- 3b. Become a foreign exchange student, host a foreign exchange student, or interview someone who is or has been a foreign exchange student to find out about his or her experiences.
Completed _____
- 3c. Find out which state has the most foreign exchange students and which countries the United States sends the most students to. Then find out which country sends the most students to the United States.
Completed _____
- 4a. Arrange to tour at least one other school in a different social environment than yours, such as an inner-city, rural, suburban, or private school.
Completed _____
- 4b. List similarities and dissimilarities to your school. Identify problem areas you noticed and possible solutions.
Completed _____

5a. Be a teacher's aide on a class trip or outing for younger children.

OR

5b. Lead a young children's group, such as a kindergarten class, elementary class, or others, on a nature trail, outdoor activity, or day camp.

OR

5c. Tutor the children of migrant workers, youth in a disadvantaged community, or someone learning to read.

Completed _____

6a. Learn how much money your community, state, and nation spend on education. What are the revenue sources for this money? Are there restrictions on how the money is spent?

6b. Research the origins of the public school system. Have the purposes of public education changed since its beginning?

Completed _____

7a. Research how your school district is governed. Is your superintendent appointed or elected? Are your school board members appointed or elected?

7b. Interview a school board member or superintendent to find out about his/her job and responsibilities.

7c. Attend a school board meeting.

Completed _____

8a. Pick out any simple skill, such as brushing your teeth, driving a car, making a bed, or balancing a checkbook. Make a teaching outline and then teach a class or group about the subject. Have them critique your teaching skills.

OR

8b. Attend a class or seminar that teaches teaching/presentation skills.

Completed _____

9a. Attend a theater production. Write a critique on the work in the area of set design, decorations, and costume design.

OR

9b. Produce and direct a play or puppet show for a group of younger children, such as a day-care center, kindergarten class, or elementary class.

Completed _____

10a. Learn how computers help your schoolwork.

10b. Make a tabletop display for your class or school on the importance and use of computers in the school environment.

Completed _____

11a. Interview two people other than teachers or school administrators and find out the following: Where were they educated? What were they trained in? How did this help prepare them for the life they now live? Find out how each continues to educate himself or herself.

11b. Write a report on your findings.

Completed _____

12a. Choose ONE of the following activities and devote at least four hours of service to that activity:

- (a) Read to a sick, blind (contact the American Foundation for the Blind at 1-800-232-5463), or homebound person in a hospital or extended-care facility.
- (b) Perform volunteer work at your school or public library.
- (c) Read stories to younger children, in a group or individually.
- (d) Help with a literacy program (for information, contact the National Institute for Literacy: 800 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006; phone—1-800-228-8813; Web site—<http://novel.nifl.gov>) and discuss your participation with your Advisor.

Completed _____

Resources

Explorer Leader Handbook (No. 34637A) and Learning for Life Web site (www.learning-for-life.org)

Qualifying Achievements

Because of the design and flexible nature of the program, Advisors and adult leaders are permitted a reasonable degree of latitude in substituting appropriate achievements that serve to meet the qualifying requirements for the Learning for Life Career Achievement Award.

Requirements

Explorers or Learning for Life participants can earn any Career Achievement Award in one or all of the 12 career clusters. To earn a Career Achievement Award, the candidate must provide *50 hours of community service and complete any nine career achievements*. The Explorer post Advisor or adult high school Learning for Life group leader certifies that each Explorer or Learning for Life participant has satisfactorily performed 50 hours of community service and verifies that each candidate has completed at least nine achievements within the career cluster.