

GUIDE TO REPORTING SERVICE HOURS IN SYMPLICITY 2015-16

Reporting Service Hours

All service hours are now reported via Symplicity

CLP Pro Bono Project hours are Community hours, but are categorized separately in Symplicity

Hours must be recorded within one month of the date of service, or by the last day of final exams each semester, whichever comes first

Hours will be reviewed and approved by the Pro Bono Society Executive Board at the conclusion of each semester

The Pro Bono Society Constitution outlines an appeals process for disallowed hours

The former service hour reporting system is no longer active – total hours for returning students have been imported into Symplicity and are listed as "Previously Approved Institutional" and "Previously Approved Community" hours

Community vs. Institutional Hours

Community Hours

- Hours which directly benefit recognized community organizations or non-profits (including pro bono projects coordinated by the Citizen Lawyer Program)
- Community hours must be voluntary, uncompensated, and not compelled
- May include political activity, but not self-campaigning
- Includes school-sponsored events that directly benefit recognized community organizations or non-profits (excluding "tabling")
- Institutional Hours
 - Hours which directly benefit the law school, the University, or a student group
 - Institutional hours can also be hours which indirectly benefit a recognized community organization

Reporting Institutional and Community Hours for the **First Time** each Semester

(excluding CLP Pro Bono Projects)

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Adding additional Community or Institutional Hours in the Same Semester

(excluding CLP Pro Bono Projects)

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Reporting Hours for CLP Pro Bono Projects

Reporting Hours for CLP Pro Bono Projects

- Hours earned with CLP Pro Bono Projects are considered Community hours and if properly reported will be automatically counted toward your Community hour total for PBS & BSA, but are reported separately in Symplicity for administrative reasons
- After you are assigned to a CLP Pro Bono Project, a new entry will be automatically created on the CLP/BSA Reporting Page
- You do not need to create a new entry for CLP Pro Bono Projects

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Reviewing Your Hours



Reminders

- All hours are now logged via Symplicity
- CLP Pro Bono Project hours are reported separately but count as Community hours
- At least half of the threshold required hours for each level of PBS & BSA recognition must be Community hours (including CLP Pro Bono Project hours)
- Please note that some states (e.g., New York) have a law-related pro bono service requirement for admission to the bar. This may include securing signed verification from pro bono supervisors. In the case of CLP Pro Bono Projects, that is the partner agency supervisor, not the Citizen Lawyer Program. Be sure to check pro bono requirements for states where you plan to seek admission.

Citizen Lawyer Program 2015-16

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University of Iowa College of Law Citizen Lawyer Program