

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM**  
(SERVICE-LEARNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE)

**PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM**

BCC has a nationally recognized Civic Engagement (CE) Program in which your child/ward would like to have your permission to participate. The CE program offers BCC students the opportunity to engage in course- related Service-Learning and/or service club-related Community Service. Engaging in either Service-Learning or Community Service gives students the chance to help others, develop marketable résumé-building skills, and become more informed citizens.

Our Service-Learning program is designed to match a student’s in-class conceptual learning experiences and career goals with service that meets *real* community needs. The student selects a course-related service placement at a non-profit agency or organization or club sponsored community service project, then has that placement approved by the course instructor. Next, the student completes a pre-service-learning contract and submits it online. Then, the student performs 10 hours of unpaid service at the community placement and completes a reflection assignment that helps the student to form mental connections between the practical service experiences and the theoretical material covered in class. The goal is to address real community needs and use that activity to enhance learning of course material and practical work skills.

Students engaged in course-related Service-Learning or club-related Community Service at BCC have tutored students in area elementary, middle, and high schools; taught enrichment classes in an after school program for elementary school students; helped clean up local waterways; worked at shelters for the homeless or victims of domestic violence, designed websites and other products for non-profit organizations, and translated important documents into other languages. There are countless ways to help area residents build better lives while learning beneficial skills for the student’s future.

Service can be fulfilled on or off campus and since your child/ward is under eighteen, we need your approval for him/her to participate. Your approval is merely for the content and purpose of the activity and does NOT imply any approval of the supervision arrangements of the activity. No Bristol Community College personnel or Community Partner organization or personnel are to be held responsible or accountable for any aspect of a Service-Learning or Community Service project undertaken by the student. ***Send the signed form to Dr. Mary Zahm, Director of Civic Engagement, room E113 on the Fall River campus.*** If you have any questions, please email her at mary.zahm@bristolcc.edu or telephone at 508-678-2811, ext. 2579.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child has requested permission to participate in the Service-Learning or Community Service project described below:

Project description: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed service begin and end dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s name \_\_\_\_\_ Student’s ID# \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below, I authorize my child/ward to participate in the service project described above. I acknowledge that no BCC or Community Partner personnel will supervise my child or be held responsible or accountable for any aspect of my child’s participation in this project.

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Signature of parent/guardian      Date      Printed name of parent/guardian