



Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I join the S.O.A.R program?
 - a. Visit the Everest Academy website under the High School tab to review and print the program overview, guidelines and contract. Turn in the completed contract in to the Vice Principals' office. This is a very important step and has to be done once for S.O.A.R volunteer hours to be approved. The approved contract will be placed in a provided white binder, where you will keep track of all future volunteer records.
2. What happens if I turn in more than 100 hours?
 - a. You can enter all the acceptable hours that you volunteer. If you exceed 100, the record will be available if you have logged them in the S.O.A.R binder and you will be able to access the list of hours to use for college applications, scholarships, etc.
3. Where do I find volunteer opportunities?
 - a. Self-motivation and self-reliance are two important parts of the S.O.A.R program. It is up to you to find volunteer opportunities that meet the program criteria and to make your own arrangements to work for the organization. We do not schedule you, nor communicate with the agency on your behalf. However, some opportunities can come about through Student Council activities or school events. The High School Team Lead teacher will alert you of those opportunities. Additional opportunities can be found at <https://www.fortbendchamber.com/fort-bend-volunteers> or in reputable Muslim organizations such as ICNA Pantry, Helping Hands Houston, Al-Amaanah Refugee Services, or An-Nisa.
4. After I volunteer, what do I do?
 - a. Before you volunteer, print off a S.O.A.R. service record form from the Everest Academy website. At the end of your shift, have the person in charge complete and sign the form. Your signature as well as your parent/guardian's is also required. If you have worked multiple days for the same organization, create a log with your days and hours, have the representative sign it, and attach it to the S.O.A.R form.
5. Where do I turn in my service (hours) form?
 - a. You will turn in a copy of it to the Vice Principal in a folder outside of her office. After she signs and approves it, you will keep it in your white binder.
6. Why do we only get 25 total summer hours?
 - a. While it is easier to get your volunteer hours during the summer months, we want to challenge you to include volunteering in your schedule year around. The goal of the

program is to make you a lifelong volunteer, balancing volunteering with your daily activities.

7. What does 'total summer hours' mean?
 - a. Whether you join S.O.A.R as a freshman and have 4 summers until your senior year or as a junior with only one summer, the 25-hour limit is the maximum allowed for all summers combined. Hours performed during all of your high school summers will be totaled. If that total number exceeds 25 hours, credit will only be given for 25 of them.
8. Am I limited to a certain number of hours per calendar year?
 - a. No, you are not. But remember, if the 25 summer hours limit is reached in one year, you will not be able to apply any further summer hours.
9. Can I help at other schools?
 - a. Yes, so long as it is for that school's benefit (school carnival, assembling first day packets, etc.) and not to benefit an organization to which you belong (Ex: football player selling merchandise at another school's event when the profit from the sales goes to your own school).
10. Can I submit hours worked when I am participating to fulfill a class requirement? (Ex: Islamic Art Festival for Art class requirements etc.)?
 - a. No, that is considered double dipping. No hours which meet the needs of another class or extracurricular activity can count towards S.O.A.R hours.
11. When can I join and begin counting hours?
 - a. You may join anytime during your high school career; however, hours cannot begin to be counted until you have submitted your signed S.O.A.R contract.
12. How long do I have to turn in hours?
 - a. Within 6 months from date of service. For seniors by April 30th of their senior year- whichever is sooner.
13. What is the S.O.A.R hours approval process?
 - a. After completing the volunteer activity and getting the service record form signed by the organization's supervisor, students submit a copy of it to the Vice Principal. Once she signs off, they keep a copy of it in their binders. The Vice Principal will maintain an electronic record of hours as well.