

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why should I volunteer?

If your Knox County Criminal Court Affidavit of Indigence is approved, participating in the Community Service Program will give you the opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to a cause and help to positively impact your community, while repaying your personal fine and court fee debt. Your participation can also provide satisfaction for strengthening your community in a meaningful way.

What is the time commitment required to volunteer?

Time commitments vary according to the total amount of fines and court costs you owe. A Community Service Timetable (Page 3 in the Community Service Program Guide) is provided for you to assess the number of committed hours needed to satisfy the total amount due.

How do I start the process for becoming a program participant?

Complete and submit a Knox County Criminal Court Community Service Program Affidavit of Indigence. Knox County Deputy Clerks are available Monday – Friday (during hours of operation) to assist you in completing the Program Affidavit and to answer any questions you may have. After review of your Program Affidavit, and conducting a criminal background search and verification for all information provided, if indigence is officially declared by the Program Manager a Notice of Program Requirement letter will be mailed to your mailing address recorded on your Affidavit to notify you of program acceptance and stating your program start date.

What is the age and physical limitation requirements for program participants?

Program participants must be at least 18 years old. Upon approval and assignment to appropriate program partner, Program participants will be given assignment cards that list important instructions, program rules and any physical requirements for that assignment. You will be carefully matched with the most appropriate program partner based on your specific circumstances, physical abilities and any trade or specialized skills you may have.

What are the Community Service Program's Rules and Requirements?

The standard policies and principles by which program participants are required to abide are listed in the Program Rules and Requirements in the Program Guide (Page 5). The Program Rules and Requirements is used in an effort to maintain the high standard of conduct expected and deserved by Program Partners that enable the organization to continue to offer services required by those in need.

Why do I have to complete a background check and information verification to participate?

Background checks are conducted to help us achieve a more efficient and safer work environment for our Program Partners and all community service participants. The current design for the Knox County Criminal Court Community Service Program is based on the accurate and documented evidence that indigence has been verified.