Why Validate Your Service Hours
While service is not about counting or quantity, service hours are added to your Elon Experiences Transcript (EET). The EET (available on OnTrack), which includes validated service, provides an official record of out of the class experiences. Highlighting these experiences can be valuable when applying for internships, graduate school, and future employment. Validating your hours allows Elon to share the story of work being done in partnership with communities, while helping to direct campus resources to support community needs.

Where Can I Engage With Service
Service can be with nonprofit organizations, schools, and government agencies that serve a community need. Additionally, service hours can also be validated for students enrolled in Community-Based Learning classes that partner with locally owned businesses to advance the public good. Visit Phoenix Serve to find out more about opportunities to engage in service.

What Counts as Validated Service
At Elon, service is defined as work accomplished through direct service (i.e. - tutoring, building homes, serving meals), indirect service (i.e. - coordinating supply drives, donating blood, coordinating fundraisers), or advocacy (i.e. - volunteering with Elon Votes! on voter registration drives community organizing, volunteering with a nonprofit organization to raise awareness of an issue or cause) with domestic and international communities that has a ***benefit beyond Elon's campus.*** Court-mandated or restitution hours can be validated. Validated service can occur whenever a student is enrolled at Elon, including times when school is not in session. Hours can be completed individually, as part of a Community-Based Learning or a Community-Engaged course, with a student organization, or with a campus department.

Meeting Hours, Reflection, and Transportation
Time spent during a meeting to plan a service-related project or event can be validated. Course-based reflection and transportation to and from community partner sites can also be validated if they are part of Community-Based Learning or Community-Engaged courses.

Fundraising/Philanthropy
Fundraising and philanthropy can be validated as indirect service in some circumstances. Hours can be validated for time that is spent to plan a philanthropy event that benefits the community. Hours can be validated for participation in the following campus philanthropy events: Elonthon and Relay for Life.

Community Federal Work Study
Hours dedicated by students who have a federal work-study position with nonprofit organizations, schools, and government agencies can be validated.

How To Validate Your Hours
We use an electronic platform called Phoenix Serve, which is linked with Phoenix Connect, in order to validate service hours. Access the platform by visiting: https://elon.givepulse.com/. For more information about how to utilize the platform, including how to enter your hours, visit www.tinyurl.com/phoenixserve.

What Does Not Count As Validated Student Service
While important, the following do not count as validated service: fostering animals, the Dog Day Out program, fundraising, supply drive donations, work on political campaigns, nonprofit internships (the SPDC tracks these), practicum hours part of degree requirements (i.e. - student teaching, Human Service Studies practicum), or service to the University (i.e. - Orientation Leaders, Resident Assistants).

If you have any questions, email the Kernodle Center for Civic Life Service Ambassadors at ambassadors@elon.edu or call 336-278-7250.