

Registration Points Updated November 2023

Teaching, cleaning or set-up responsibility	12 points
One additional responsibility (teaching, cleaning or set-up)	12 points
Co-teaching responsibility	6 points
Extra classes (6-12th core type classes) taught outside of Sonlight meeting days, no more than 2 per semester	1 point per class
Perfect attendance for the semester	5 points
Missing only 1 week of Sonlight per semester	2 points
Enrolling in and attending Sonlight all 5 hours	6 points
Volunteering to help in any manner asked outside of Sonlight class hours (i.e. setup before or cleaning afterward)	1 point
Volunteering for and being an active member of a committee that benefits Sonlight (i.e. field trip, Mom's night out, social events, storage/AV, etc.)	1-6 points
Submitting class descriptions on time (awarded per teacher, not per each class)	2 points
Turning in lesson plans and contingency plans on time (awarded per teacher, not per each class)	2 points
For 6-12th teachers, turning in grade reports with assessments on time mid semester and end of semester (awarded per teacher, not per each class)	1 point per grade report
Submitting commitment form and paying fee on time	4 points

Questions Asked Regarding Points

Do I lose points when I am absent from Sonlight?

No. We never remove points from your total. We only add points to your total if you finish the semester with perfect attendance or only one absence.

What if I am absent from Sonlight for part of the day?

Our rules and guidelines state that 2 partial absences equal one absence.

What if I am tardy to Sonlight?

Our rules and guidelines state that 3 tardies equal one absence.

Am I being encouraged to come to Sonlight sick so that I get points for attendance?

No, we do not want to spread illness. Our policy states that you must be fever-free and have no other symptoms of an illness that would indicate you are contagious for at least 24 hours.

If my spouse or family member brings my kids to Sonlight in my place will I be counted absent?

If your spouse or family member is able to come to Sonlight and follow your schedule by assisting in all of your classes, you will not be considered absent for point purposes. Many times dads will fill in and teach for moms and we certainly appreciate that. However if they do not feel comfortable to teach, we would need you to arrange for someone to teach your class. If you are a cleaner and your spouse or family member cannot clean, it will be counted as a partial absence.

If my child is sick and stays home, does that affect the attendance points I can earn?

This does not affect your points if you are able to come to Sonlight without your child. Parent absences are the ones that affect Sonlight's ability to function appropriately during the day. We know not everyone has the luxury of leaving a sick child home with their spouse or leaving them home alone if they are older, but we truly appreciate and benefit from that when it can be done.

Why are points awarded for enrolling in Sonlight all 5 hours?

We know that attending Sonlight all day does not fit everyone's schedule which is why we allow members to attend a minimum of 3 hours. However, we try to offer enough classes to fit all students every class hour and have to secure teachers for all classes well before registration. If too many families decide to not come to Sonlight for the first hour for example, we struggle to have enough assistants in those classes and enough floaters to fill in when moms are absent. It helps our group tremendously when you can come all 5 hours!

Why can't cleaners earn as many points as teachers?

It is true that cleaners and set up families are not able to get points for things such as turning in lesson plans and contingency plans and submitting class descriptions. Teachers do have to put in more time than cleaners, so we feel the extra point rewards are fair. However, cleaners can earn points in other ways as shown on the table above.

If a cleaner asked me to clean for them because they will be absent do I get rewarded?

Yes! You will receive an extra point if you come early to set up or stay late to clean whether the person assigned that position asks you to do so or if the coordinators put out a plea. Please make sure a coordinator is aware so that it is accounted for.

My life is just too busy to do most of these things to earn extra points. Is there anything else I can do?

Everyone is in a different season of life and that is OK! We do not want anyone to feel badly just because they cannot do more than others. The only requirement for Sonlight is for a member to have one responsibility which is worth 12 points, and that is OK if that is all you have. But we do want to reward those who are able to give more to Sonlight.

Do I get points if I teach a class that I normally assist in when the teacher is absent?

No. Because it is during Sonlight hours when you would be assisting anyway, and the lesson will have already been prepared by the class teacher, we do not give points for this. When an assistant is asked to teach a class, they are not required to do so and it is OK to say no if they do not feel comfortable. However, most moms don't mind following a plan that has been prepared if a teacher is out and they are to be assisting anyway. If there are special circumstances where a mom is out an extended period for reasons that cannot be controlled, and you are asked to prepare lessons outside of Sonlight and teach, please discuss this with a coordinator to determine possible point awards.

My class preparation requires a lot more than other teachers. Can I get extra points?

We realize that classes take a varying degree of prep work based on different factors but every class is important for Sonlight to function. For example, teaching a class for the first time will require more prep work than if you have taught the class previously, but all teachers will have this experience at one time or another. We do recognize that some core classes meet before Sonlight starts and we do have point awards for extra classes. Middle school and high school teachers are required to do grade reports with assessments twice per semester and points are awarded for doing so in a timely manner. These measures are the only ways some teachers can receive more points than other teachers.

How are points allocated for class descriptions, lesson plans and grades if I am co-teaching?

If you are co-teaching a class, both teachers are expected to contribute equally to all aspects of the class so both teachers will receive points.

If I teach a year long class can I receive points in the spring for submitting a class description?

Yes, you can although please do not submit a new one! If any updating needs to be done to your description for spring specific information you are expected to do that. You are also expected to calculate the class fee for the spring and let your grade level coordinator know the amount so that we can send invoices to the students already enrolled in your class.

If I have taught a class before and have a coordinator copy the class for me do I get points for submitting a class description?

Yes you do! You have the responsibility of making sure that class is copied and reviewing it to make any necessary changes. As long as you take the initiative and this is done before the deadline, you earn points.

Why do coordinators get to register first?

Coordinators meet all day for registration to make sure everything runs smoothly and to manually make changes to registration for things such as waitlists and bump lists. From a practical standpoint, it is best if we have already registered our families in order to fully devote ourselves to serving other members. Because we meet another full day to conduct parent registration, put in many volunteer hours between semesters to prepare for Sonlight, and arrive early and stay late on Sonlight days, we also believe registering first is fair.

Why did we change to this method of registration order?

We used a random method for years but often noticed those who always stepped up to do more, whether teaching an additional class or staying late to clean, might be at the bottom of the registration order. We believe the new way will reward those who have a high level of commitment toward Sonlight and that others can contribute by leading committees that foster relationships and community. It is more work for us to account for points but we think it is worth the benefits.