

# The President's Volunteer Service Award



## History

In 2003, the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation founded the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) to recognize the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action too.

The PVSA has continued under each administration, honoring the volunteers who are using their time and talents to solve some of the toughest challenges facing our nation.

Led by the AmeriCorps and managed in partnership with Points of Light, this program allows certifying organizations to recognize their most exceptional volunteers.

In spring 2023, Girl Scout Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont became a certifying organization. We are happy to sponsor registered Girl Scouts within our council who have earned this award.

## Volunteer Eligibility

- United States citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States (i.e., green card holder).
- Must be at least five years old.
- Must complete eligible service within a 12-month period (for annual Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards) and over a lifetime (for Lifetime Achievement Awards).

## Eligible service:

- Unpaid acts of volunteer service benefitting others with the following exceptions:
  - Service through National service programs that provide a stipend (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) may count towards the Lifetime Achievement Award\*, but not for the annual Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards).
  - Travel stipends, transit/parking passes, membership passes, expense reimbursements, and other nominal volunteer support do not impact service eligibility.
- Service must be with an approved Certifying Organization. A Certifying Organization is an organization that has been granted authority through an application and review process to give out the PVSA to volunteers. Certifying Organizations verify and certify that a volunteer has met the requirements to receive a PVSA within a 12-month period specified by the Certifying Organization. Only Certifying Organizations can certify volunteers' eligibility for the PVSA and order awards.
- Certifying Organizations must be established and operate in the United States, its territories (Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands), or on overseas U.S. military and state installations. Additionally, Certifying Organizations must receive or facilitate volunteer service.
- GSCP2P is a Certifying Organization.
- Hours spent on the Girl Scout Gold, Silver or Bronze award also count towards the minimum number of hours for the President's Volunteer Service Award.

## Ineligible service includes

- Donating funds
- Political lobbying (Non-partisan voter registration is an eligible activity)
- Religious instruction

- Conducting worship service
- Proselytizing
- Volunteer service performed as part of court-ordered community service
- Serving only family members

Hours are measured over a 12-month period and awards are designated based on cumulative hours. The awards are offered in multiple levels and are designed to recognize each milestone of your service achievement. Levels include bronze, silver, gold and the highest honor, the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for those who contribute more than 4,000 hours of service in their lifetime.

## Required Hours

The age category is determined by the age the person was for at least 7 months within the 12-month calendar year. For example, if the person was 16 for 7 months within the year in question, that person would qualify within the 16-25 age group.

Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime Achievement Award
Kids (5-10 year old)	26-49 hours	50-74 hours	75+ hours	4,000+ hours
Teens (11-15)	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours	4,000+ hours
Young Adults (16-25)	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250+ hours	4,000+ hours
Adults (26+)	100-249 hours	250-499 hours	500+ hours	4,000+ hours

Once you have completed your hours, please complete the GSCP2P Presidential Service Award Application found here: <https://bit.ly/3E5CnzC>.

After your submission, GSCP2P will review the hours submitted, verify that all volunteers and hours meet the eligibility criteria, and will order the appropriate Award.

(Wait for my confirmation on this- Along with the ultimate honor of presidential recognition, recipients will receive a personalized certificate, an official pin and a congratulatory letter from the president of the United States.)

To learn more about the PVSA, visit [presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://presidentialserviceawards.gov). The President's Volunteer Service Award. If you have questions about this award, please reach out to [info@girlscoutsp2p.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsp2p.org).

## Volunteer Hours Log Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop # \_\_\_\_\_ Service Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Hours Required to Earn Awards in Each Age Group:

Date of Service	Organization	Act of Service or Project	Hours	Approved by Supervisor's Name & Initials

Volunteer hours must be completed in a 12-month period.