



President's Volunteer Service Award FAQ

How do I earn a President's Volunteer Service Award?

1. Report service hours performed annually between May 1st and April 30th via Montgomery College's volunteer platform GivePulse at www.montgomerycollege.edu/givepulse.
2. [Submit the online application form here.](#)


What is the President's Volunteer Service Award?

Montgomery College is a "certifying organization" for the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). The PVSA was created in 2003 to recognize and honor Americans who are engaged in their communities by way of voluntary service. It is awarded by the President of the United States and the Corporation for National and Community Service, and administered by the Points of Light Foundation, to individuals, families, and groups that are committed to community service.

What is the benefit of earning the President's Volunteer Service Award?

The President's Volunteer Service Award is a prestigious national honor that highlights your commitment to serving the community and the nation. This award not only improves your resume for college transfers and future job applications, but also allows you to inspire others to follow in your footsteps – to contribute to their communities through volunteer service and to make volunteer service a central part of their lives.

The President's Volunteer Service Award 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. [Please see the hours requirements for each level here.](#)



HOURS BY AWARD	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
Kids (5-10)	26 – 49	50 – 74	75 +
Teens (11–15)	50 – 74	75 – 99	100 +
Young Adults (16-25)	100 – 174	175 – 249	250 +
Adults (26 and older)	100 – 249	250 – 499	500+
Families and Groups*	200 – 499	500 – 999	1,000+

President's Lifetime Achievement Award: Individuals who have completed 4,000 or more hours in their lifetime

** Two or more people, with each member contributing at least 25 hours toward the total*

**THE PRESIDENT'S
VOLUNTEER
SERVICE AWARD**

Who is eligible to receive the PVSA?

1. MC Students and Employees (or those who completed service while they were MC students or employees)
2. U.S. Citizens and Permanent Legal Residents*

*Though the federal agency that awards the PVSA does not grant awards to residents with other statuses, all MC students and employees who submit their volunteer hours in Givepulse are eligible for several other MC Service awards. Please contact the Service-Learning Program for more information.

Applicants Must:

1. Have documented at least 100 hours of volunteer service completed between a 12-month award year of May 1– April 30.
2. Submit volunteer hours as "impacts" via GivePulse, verified by site supervisor(s) and/or faculty members
3. Complete the President's Volunteer Award Application by the deadline

What does NOT count toward a PVSA certified by MC?

1. Paid service of any kind, including stipends or service performed as part of an MC employee's work responsibilities (e.g. Faculty Academic Service)
2. Religious proselytizing
3. Political volunteering to benefit a specific candidate or political party
4. Service outside of the United States, Puerto Rico, or U.S. territories
5. Court-ordered community service
6. Any time spent traveling to and from a service site or sleeping or eating while at a service site
7. Generally, time spent attending or organizing activities for a student club, MC program, or community group do not count, unless those activities benefit a community need or support a community service performed with a partner organization

Examples of qualifying volunteer work include, but are not limited to:

- On- and off-campus unpaid volunteer activities with a qualifying non-profit, government, or community organization
- MC-sponsored service-learning opportunities such as Alternative Break or Spirit of Service Days
- Academic Service-Learning within an MC course

Is there a reporting deadline?

The award is given for 100+ hours of service between May 1-April of every year. To qualify for the 2017-2018 award year, you may document any service hours performed between May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018. All hours must be verified in Givepulse and applications submitted by June 8, 2018.

How do I receive my Award?

Applicants will receive an invitation to the Award Ceremony at the Montgomery County Council building on July 30th. Any awards not dispersed at the Award Ceremony will be mailed to the address included in the application.

Questions? Please contact Nik Sushka at nik.sushka@montgomerycollege.edu or 240-567-5261.