



President's Volunteer Service Award FAQ

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

1. Report service hours performed between May 1st and April 30th via MC Serves! at <https://montgomerycollege.galaxydigital.com/user/login/> and ensure your hours are verified.
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 and verified at least 100 hours of volunteer service completed between a 12-month award year of May 1– April 30. This must be done by submitting volunteer hours on MC Serves! (link above). A site supervisor or MC employee must verify your hours.
2. 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. When attending or organizing activities for a student club, MC program, or community group: these hours are only countable if they perform a service to support a community need or 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
- Coordinating a service-learning project that supports a community need

Is there a reporting deadline?

The award is given for 100+ hours of reported and verified service between May 1st and April 30th of every year. All hours must be input into MC Serves by April 30th.

How do I receive my Award?

Students who have volunteered 20+ hours (regardless of PVSA application or eligibility) will be invited to the Student Life Awards Banquet each spring.

Notably, this award is generally not issued by the federal government until mid-summer. As such, students may either pick up the award or ask that it be mailed to their home.

Questions? Contact Schnell.Garrett@montgomerycollege.edu or Hannah.Stocks@montgomerycollege.edu.