

# The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA)

Recognizes individuals who are committed to a high level of volunteer and service. These individuals work tirelessly to help solve some of the toughest challenges facing their communities, and our nation.

As an official certifying organization, Girl Scouts of Eastern PA are eligible to receive this special award in recognition of their annual volunteer service. Girl Scouts and adults that meet the requirements for the Bronze, Silver, Gold or Lifetime Achievement award level. will receive the PVSA award package which will include a custom letter from the President, a certificate and a pin.

## 2023-2024 Award Year

Volunteer service hours must be completed between October 1st, 2023 – September 30th, 2024. All service hours must be reported to the Girl Scouts of Eastern PA office by October 10, 2024, to be counted.

## Service Hours Required to Earn Awards in Each Age Group:

Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Lifetime
Kids (5-10)	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 Adult (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

## Award Package:

Members who achieve the required hours of volunteer service during the 2023-2024 year will receive:

- The official President's Volunteer Service Award pin
- A personalized certificate of achievement
- A letter signed by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

The award package will be mailed directly to qualifying Girl Scouts and adults in the fall. Applicants will be notified of their award status via email once the certification process is complete. No decisions will be released until after the October 10th submission deadline.

## Eligible Service

- Unpaid acts of volunteer service benefiting others
- Service hours do not have to be exclusively girl scouts related. Service hours, if they meet the eligibility criteria, can be earned through service generally.
- Service hours earned in pursuit of higher awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Silver Trefoil) can be used to count towards PVSA minimums if they meet eligibility criteria
- Eligible Service does NOT include: 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 and serving only family members.

## Tracking Service Hours:

It is recommended that Girl Scouts keep track of their volunteer service hours throughout the year. and utilize the provided hours log to do so. The hours log is attached here. **Please note that girls must have their hours signed by the person running the event or by a troop leader if the event organizer is not available.**

Information that will be important to track and required for submission:

- Date(s) of the Volunteer Service
- Brief Description of the Service
- Number of Service Hours
- Initials of the event organizer (or troop leader)

## President's Volunteer Service Award - Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Is any pre-registration required to be eligible for this award?

No registration is required prior to completion of service hours or submission of the form.

2. Can I include hours I completed for higher awards towards the total hours needed for the PVSA?

Yes, hours earned in pursuit of higher awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Silver Trefoil) can be used to count towards PVSA minimums if they meet eligibility criteria.

3. Do all the hours I include have to be girl scout related? Can I use hours earned through participation in a school activity, club, etc.?

Service hours do not have to be exclusively girl scouts related. Service hours, if they meet the eligibility criteria, can be earned through community service generally.

4. Can I submit the hours I completed prior to the start of the Girl Scout Year?

No, the only hours that will be considered must be completed within the outlined 12-month period (October 1st, 2023 – September 30th, 2024)

5. What kind of service hours are eligible for the PVSA?

Any unpaid acts of volunteer service benefiting others qualifies.

6. What kind of service hours are not eligible for the PVSA?

Eligible Service does NOT include: 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 and serving only family members.

7. Who should sign off on Girl Scout related service hours?

Service hours can be signed off on by Troop Leaders or any adult facilitating the service hours (Teacher, nonprofit professional, etc.)

8. Who should sign off on non-Girl Scout related service hours?

Service hours can be signed off on by any adult facilitating the service hours (Teacher, nonprofit professional, etc.)

9. How do I submit my service hours?

Service hours must be submitted via this form and include the following information:

Date and description of volunteer service, number of service hours and initials of an event organizer or troop leader.

10. What if my age will change between when I earned the hours and the October 10th Deadline?

Whatever age you are when you submit your application, is what age will be considered when determining your eligibility for the award.



**President's Volunteer Service Award**

Please fill out the below form for each girl/adult requesting recognition for the President's Volunteer Service Award. Please mail the completed form to: GSEP, Attn: Amanda Hunsberger, P.O. Box 814, Valley Forge, PA 19482. If you have any questions regarding the President's Volunteer Service Award or this form, please contact [girlawards@gsep.org](mailto:girlawards@gsep.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop #: \_\_\_\_\_ Service Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

**My age is:**

- Kids (5-10 years of age)
- Teens (11-15 years of age)
- Young Adults (16-25 years of age)
- Adults (26 years of age and older)

**I am applying for:**

- Bronze President's Volunteer Service Award
- Silver President's Volunteer Service Award
- Gold President's Volunteer Service Award

*Please note that hours are measured over a 12-month period and awards are designated based on cumulative hours. Most voluntary service is eligible to be counted towards this award, with the following exceptions: political lobbying, religious instruction, conducting worship service, proselytizing, and serving only family members. Non-partisan voter registration is an eligible activity.*

**Eligibility requirements for each age group:**

Age Group	Bronze	Silver	Gold
<b>Kids (ages 5-10)</b>	26-49 hours	50-74 hours	75+ hours
<b>Teens (ages 11-15)</b>	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours
<b>Young Adults (ages 16-25)</b>	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250+ hours
<b>Adults (ages 26 and older)</b>	100-249 hours	250-499 hours	500+ hours

