

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 hours the 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, 2022 – September 30th, 2023), with the one exception being hours submitted for the Lifetime Achievement Award.

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

Any unpaid acts of volunteer service benefitting others qualifies.

Please note that 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.

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. Am I allowed to include virtual service hours?

Yes, virtual and in person hours may be included in your submission.

10. 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.

11. When must I report my service hours by?

All service hours must be reported to the Girl Scouts Nations Capital office by October 10, 2023, by completing this form.

12. 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.

13. When will I know if I have received the award?

GSNC will work to certify all eligible applicants promptly following the submission date. No decisions will be released until after the October 10th deadline. Applicants will be notified of their status via email.



14. Who is eligible to receive the PVSA?

Any member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital that is a U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents (i.e. green card holders) per federal rules. Currently, GSCNC is not able to award the PVSA to non-council members.

15. Are adults eligible for the PVSA?

Yes, both adults and girl scouts are eligible to receive the PVSA.