

## **The President's Volunteer Service Award**

*An initiative of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation*

### **The Award**

The President's Volunteer Service Award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation on behalf of the President of the United States to recognize the best in the American spirit, and to encourage all Americans to improve their communities through volunteer service, and civic participation.

There are three levels and four categories of the Award varying by age and hours of service completed within a 12-month period:

<b>Kids</b> (14 and under)	<b>Adults</b> (26 and up)
Bronze 50–74 hours	Bronze 100-249 hours
Silver 75-99 hours	Silver 250-499 hours
Gold 100 + hours	Gold 500 + hours
<b>Young Adults</b> (15-25)	<b>Families and Groups*</b>
Bronze 100-174 hours	Bronze 200-499 hours
Silver 175-249 hours	Silver 500-999 hours
Gold 250 + hours	Gold 1,000 + hours

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

Recipients can earn more than one level of the Award within 12 months. In addition, individuals who complete 4,000 hours or more of volunteer service will be recognized with the President's Call to Service Award.

All Award recipients receive a personalized certificate of achievement, a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States, a congratulatory letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, and an official President's Award pin.

### **Guidelines**

To earn an Award, individuals, families, and groups must keep a record of volunteer activities and hours served. Activities may be kept as a diary or calendar, or tracked online with USA Freedom Corps Record of Service, available at [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov).

Each volunteer must submit a record of service to a registered Certifying Organization, which will review and verify the record and distribute the Award. Nonprofit, community, and faith-based organizations, businesses, schools and colleges, membership and trade associations, and federal, state, or local government agencies can serve as Certifying Organizations.

While almost all volunteer service contributes to eligibility for the Award, volunteers are encouraged to participate in service that addresses particular areas of need in our Nation. Priority areas include youth achievement, parks and open spaces, healthy communities, public safety, and emergency response. Activities should be unpaid and may not include court-ordered community service.

### **The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation**

President George W. Bush created the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation in 2003 to help recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making to our Nation. Chaired by two-time Super Bowl champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Robert Dole and John Glenn serving as honorary co-chairs, the Council includes leaders from government, business, media, entertainment, education, and nonprofit, volunteer service and community organizations.

### **More Information**

To learn more about the Award, visit [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov) or call 1-866-545-5307. To learn for about volunteering and service, please visit [www.usafreedomcorps.gov](http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov) or [www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org).