



Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) FAQ

What is the PVSA?

- The Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is a national recognition program created by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to honor individuals who make significant contributions through volunteer service. It is not a Girl Scout award, but an independent national recognition.
- Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas (GSSWT) serves as a certifying organization, meaning we are approved to verify and submit service hours on behalf of eligible Girl Scouts.

PVSA Eligibility Criteria

- Be a current, registered member of Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas with an active membership at the time of service and submission.
- Be a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- Be at least 5 years old at the time of service.
- Complete eligible volunteer service within a 12-month period (May 1st-April 30th)

What qualifies as eligible volunteer service?

- Eligible service includes unpaid acts of volunteerism that benefit others or the broader community.
- Examples include volunteering with nonprofit organizations, schools, libraries, food banks, shelters, parks, and other community-based programs.
- Activities such as assisting at events, organizing drives, mentoring or tutoring, administrative support, youth program facilitation, environmental cleanups, and other services where time is given freely to support a cause or community need.

What does not qualify as eligible service?

- Donating funds or materials instead of time.
- Political lobbying or campaigning.
- Religious instruction or conducting worship services.
- Proselytizing (attempting to convert others to a religion).
- Court-ordered community service.
- Volunteer service performed only for family members.
- Service hours that are double-counted for another award program (e.g., Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award hours may not be reused for PVSA credit).
- Mandatory school extracurricular activities or hours required to maintain membership or leadership roles in clubs, sports, or honor societies (e.g., required Key Club or NHS service hours).

Important Notes on Submissions

- Large blocks of hours are subject to review and may require additional explanation or a detailed breakdown of activities to ensure they meet PVSA criteria.
- Be as specific and accurate as possible when logging service time. The more clarity you provide, the smoother the review process will be.
- As a council, we exclusively provide the official PVSA certificate and the PVSA pin—no medallions, apparel, or other add-ons are included.

Presidential Volunteer Service Award Hour Log

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award Hours should be recorded for one year from May 1 to April 30.

Kids (5-10): Bronze (26-49 hours), Silver (50-74 hours) and Gold (75 + hours)
 Teens (11-15): Bronze (50-74 hours), Silver (75-99 hours), and Gold (100 + hours)
 Young Adults (16-25): Bronze (100-174 hours), Silver (175-249 hours) and Gold (250 + hours)
 Adults (26+): Bronze (100-249 hours), Silver (250-499 hours) and Gold (500 + hours)

First Name	Last Name	Total Hours	Troop		
Street Address		City	Zip Code		
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address			
			Bronze	Silver	Gold
Age (at time of submission)	Date of Birth				

Date	Describe what you did... Include organization and details of volunteer activity.	Time Spent Hours/Mins	Adult Initials
			Subtotal

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 30

Total

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 30