

# INFORMATION SHEET

## 2023-2024 President's Volunteer Service Award and Moraga School District Service Award

### ***What is the President's Volunteer Service Award?***

The President's Volunteer Service Award is a highly coveted award that recognizes the contributions of volunteers who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service and civic participation over the course of a 12-month period.

### ***What is the Moraga School District Service Award?***

Similar to the President's Volunteer Service Award, the award recognizes students with significant volunteer service hours.

### ***What are the service award levels?***

The table below shows the award level earned by service hour totals. The age category is determined by your grade at the of the 12-month period reported.

		President's Volunteer Service Award		
	MSD Award	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Grades K - 5	15 hours	26-49 hours	50-74 hours	75+ hours
Grades 6 - 8	35 hours	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100+ hours

*All hours by grade category must be in a 12-month period and not overlap with prior award time period*

### ***What hours count and what hours do not count for the awards?***

- Service hours must be unpaid and must not earn school credit.
- Service hours must not include court-ordered community service.
- Service hours related to political lobbying or political campaign work do not count.
- Service hours for religious instruction or worship do not count.
- Service hours must be for an organization that is U.S./Puerto Rico-based. Service outside the U.S. can qualify if the service is for a U.S./Puerto Rico-based organization.
- The President's Volunteer Service Award is awarded only to U.S. citizens and legal residents; there are no residency restrictions to earn the Moraga School District Service Award.

### ***How do I apply for a service award?***

Information and application forms are found on the MSD website under Community > Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Application packages are **due by Friday, April 12, 2024**. Students are responsible for keeping a log of their hours and obtaining supervisor signatures upon completion of each service activity throughout the year. Some specific application requirements:

- A daily log including date and hours worked is required for service activities greater than 1 week.
- All hours must be verified and signed by an authorized representative of the organization. **The student's parent(s) may not verify their own child's hours.** The signature may be on the Moraga School District 'Verification Form' or attached in a separate document on the organization's letterhead stationery.
- Do not record hours on the President's Award web site.

### ***When do I apply for a service award?***

Submit applications including 'Summary Page' with attached Verification Form(s) to your school's office on or before **Friday, April 12, 2024**. Students will be recognized in May/June 2024. Send questions to [jbaier@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:jbaier@moraga.k12.ca.us)

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*What are some examples of qualified service activities?*

Qualifying Service Examples	Non-Qualifying Service Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer Tutoring (not for school credit or a grade)</li> <li>• School or other community garden work</li> <li>• Volunteer for PTA programs</li> <li>• Volunteer to assist teachers or for school events</li> <li>• Contra Costa Food Bank</li> <li>• Volunteer at a summer camp</li> <li>• Monument Crisis Center</li> <li>• Boy Scout &amp; Girl Scout Volunteer Service</li> <li>• Start a butterfly garden at school</li> <li>• Organizing campus clean-up</li> <li>• Special Olympics</li> <li>• Send cards to soldiers serving overseas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Court-ordered community service</li> <li>• Politically-related lobbying or campaign work</li> <li>• Religious instruction</li> <li>• Religious worship</li> <li>• Peer Tutoring for a grade</li> <li>• Volunteering outside of the U.S. for an organization based outside the U.S. or Puerto Rico</li> </ul>

***Are there guidelines around what service activities qualify?***

Below is some guidance by different categories of whether an activity qualifies for volunteer service hours (as opposed to an extra-curricular activity for the student's benefit). Following are some clarifying examples:

- Volunteer hours count as long as they are active volunteer hours. Hours for simply attending meetings and events will not count.
- You will not receive credit for hours worked by others supporting your project.
- Most performance and athletic program time is considered extra-curricular and does not count. Performance at a community event if there is no school credit and no payment may count. Performing at church or school musical or assembly does not count.
- Activities benefiting those outside a religious organization are eligible (food banks, animal shelters, for example)
- Political lobbying or campaign work does not qualify.

***Where can I get ideas of Volunteer Service activities?***

Some ideas and organization links will be available on the Moraga School District website under Community > Presidential Volunteer Service Awards in the near future. With your parents' permission, ask your relatives, teachers, scout leaders and others for ideas. If you have suggestions to add to the list, please send them to: [jbaier@moraga.k12.ca.us](mailto:jbaier@moraga.k12.ca.us)