President to Recognize Leading Higher Education Institutions for Community Service

Apply today to the 2013 Honor Roll

Each year, the President of the United States recognizes higher education institutions that reflect the values of exemplary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities through service.

The 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful and measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.

Program Goals

- Increase public awareness of the impact that campus service has on communities and the nation.
- Recognize institutions with high-quality service programs that demonstrate measurable results in meeting community needs.
- Encourage institutions of higher education to strengthen their commitment to service and civic engagement.
- Increase the number and impact of students in meeting community needs.

Eligibility

All accredited degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States are eligible and encouraged to apply.

Any college or university participating in the Federal Work-Study (FWS) program must meet the statutory 7% minimum FWS community service requirement for the most recent available school year. Previous applicants must re-apply each year.

Applications for the 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll are due November 29, 2012.

Competition Categories

Applications will be accepted in two categories:

General Community Service recognizes the quality of, quantity of, and commitment to community service initiatives at a college or university. This category will reflect the best practices of community service and service learning, such as long-term campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service.

Special Focus Presidential Awards recognizes exemplary initiatives aligned with:

- Promise Neighborhoods Model
- Innovation in Early Childhood Education
- Service that Supports Summer Learning

For both categories, it is important to highlight the qualitative impact that your service programs have had on the community in addition to the quantitative data, such as the number of volunteers and the number of hours served.
**Award Levels**

Of the institutions that are admitted to the Honor Roll, some receive “With Distinction” honors and six are selected to receive the Presidential Award, the highest federal recognition an institution can receive for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

- The General Community Service Presidential Awards will be presented to three institutions that reflect the best practices of community service and service-learning, such as long-term campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of their service.

- The Special Focus Area Presidential Awards will be presented to three institutions that best demonstrate success in the key areas of the President’s service and education plan: work in the Promise Neighborhoods model; exemplifying and advancing the innovation in early childhood education partnerships; and service that supports summer learning.

- With Distinction: The Honor Roll’s “With Distinction” recognition will be given to those applicants that display strong levels of institutional commitment, provide a compelling case for partnerships that produce measurable impact in the community, and have a Federal Work-Study community service percentage of 15% or above.

- Honor Roll: Institutions will be admitted to the Honor Roll that demonstrate relevant and meaningful service and achieve measurable impacts in the community. Institutions participating in the Federal Work Study program must meet the statutory 7% minimum FWS community service requirement to be admitted to the Honor Roll.

**Further Information**

Applications must be submitted electronically via the online application system. To learn more and apply to be on the Honor Roll, visit: NationalService.gov/HonorRoll.

You can also visit our Facebook page: Facebook.com/NationalService.

**Benefits for Institutions**

By being placed on the President’s Honor Roll, your institution will be recognized by the President of the United States as a leader and role-model in community service for the higher-education sector. It will help to:

- Recruit students
- Gain recognition for your institution’s commitment to service
- Recognize your campus as a service leader in the community
- Garner additional community partnerships
- Strengthen ties with alumni
- Fulfill your institution’s civic mission

In addition, Honor Roll institutions receive:

- Assistance with gaining media attention for your achievement
- Recognition at a national awards ceremony
- Listing on the President’s Honor Roll website