The President of the United States Honors Higher Education Institutions Using the Promise Neighborhoods Model to Improve Education

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

The 2013 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll includes three Special Focus Area categories that are aligned with the President’s education and innovation priorities: Promise Neighborhoods, Early Childhood Education, and Summer Learning.

The Promise Neighborhoods model is designed to improve educational and developmental outcomes for all children in the nation’s most distressed communities, and transform those communities by improving education outcomes. Institutions of higher education submitting applications in this category are those that work with community partners to develop wrap-around, youth-focused services that are designed to improve educational and developmental outcomes for children in their communities.

To Apply

Institutions applying for recognition of their work using the Promise Neighborhoods model should emphasize how their activities and resources support the coordination of youth-serving community organizations to increase the academic success of K-12 students. Service projects could also aim to build the capacity of such organizations to serve neighborhood youth. Successful applicants will be able to show that their programs address any of the following academic issues: improving student academic achievement in core subjects, supporting successful middle school to high school transition, or encouraging high school completion.

To address the focus on community outcomes, applications should include qualitative descriptions of the program’s impacts in addition to a quantitative account of the hours spent or students served.

Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors, including the scope and innovation of service projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school’s commitment to long-term campus-community.

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.
The deadline for the 2013 Honor Roll submissions is **November 29, 2012**.

The winners will be announced at the American Council on Education (ACE) Conference, **March 2-5, 2013**, in Washington, DC.

**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**

For information, visit [http://NationalService.gov/HonorRoll](http://NationalService.gov/HonorRoll)

Applications must be submitted electronically via the online application system. To apply to be on the Honor Roll visit: [http://myproject.nationalservice.gov/honorroll/](http://myproject.nationalservice.gov/honorroll/)

Facebook.com/nationalservice.