



APPLY TODAY! TO THE HONOR ROLL

AWARD FOCUS: ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

PRESIDENT TO RECOGNIZE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES FOR INCREASING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN COMMUNITIES

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 communities through service.

The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community challenges and as a result, more students are likely to pursue a lifelong path of civic engagement that achieves meaningful and measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.



Photo courtesy of University of Nebraska at Omaha

STUDENTS ENGAGED IN
COMMUNITY SERVICE*
3.1 million

COMMUNITY SERVICE BY STUDENTS*
118 million hours

VALUE OF STUDENT
COMMUNITY SERVICE*
\$2.5 billion

*Statistics from 2013

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

The Economic Opportunity category recognizes institutions with service programs that build economic independence, increase family stability, and create more sustainable and resilient communities. Institutions applying in this category will be engaged in service that improves the financial well-being and security of economically disadvantaged individuals.

ELIGIBILITY

All accredited degree-granting colleges and universities in the United States are eligible to apply for recognition. Seminaries and rabbinical schools are also encouraged to apply.

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

TO APPLY

Applicants should demonstrate how their efforts help communities and economically disadvantaged individuals achieve economic opportunity goals. Colleges or universities submitting applications in this category should demonstrate the use of innovative practices and strategies to address issues such as financial literacy, homelessness, food security, or employment needs of low-income and disadvantaged populations. For example, applicants may describe how their service activities help communities and individuals with financial literacy, job training, employment preparation, housing, and food resources. Strong applications will discuss the use of assessment and evaluation to improve their service interventions and provide credible evidence as well as measurable results. Moreover, applications in this category should illustrate how institutions are building capacity in community nonprofits to address economic issues in communities.

As with the other categories, applicants to the Economic Opportunity category should highlight the qualitative impact that your service programs have had on the community in addition to quantitative data, such as the number of volunteers and the number of hours served. Emphasizing community outcomes in addition to output indicators should be done by reporting how your service helps low-income populations improve their economic outcomes.

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 partnerships, and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service.

THE AWARD LEVELS

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

- The Presidential Awards will be presented to four institutions—one each in general community service, economic opportunity, education, and interfaith community service. These schools reflect the best practices in the specified category for community service and service-learning, including long-term campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of their service.
- The Presidential Award Finalists are so designated to the small group of institutions that are considered for, but do not receive, the Presidential Award. These institutions demonstrate high standards of community service, measurable outcomes, and success within its specified service programs.
- The Honor Roll "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 percent or above.
- The Honor Roll recognition will be given to institutions 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 percent minimum FWS community service requirement to be admitted to the Honor Roll.

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

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](https://www.nationalservice.gov/HonorRoll)

You can also visit our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/PresidentsHonorRoll](https://www.facebook.com/PresidentsHonorRoll)

