



About the President's Volunteer Service Awards

In 2003, the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation founded the **President's Volunteer Service Award** to recognize the important role of volunteers in our country's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action, too.

Led by the [AmeriCorps](#) and managed in partnership with [Points of Light](#), the Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) allows Certifying Organizations – such as the African Library Project - to recognize their most exceptional volunteers as well as to recognize and promote volunteering in the US.

The PVSA offers a set of tangible rewards: certificate, pin, and a personalized certificate of achievement and letter signed by President Biden. Volunteers 5 years old and up may earn a Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Lifetime award by certifying their hours of service to a recognized nonprofit organization such as African Library Project. For additional information, please go directly to the PVSA website: <https://presidentalserviceawards.gov>

The African Library Project participated in this program until 2017. We have recently renewed our enrollment, and we are eligible to present PVS Awards for the 12-month period beginning 10/10/23.

These President's Volunteer Service Awards offer a small token of recognition to our hard-working Book Drive Organizers, especially young people. We are hoping that this recognition will encourage Book Drive Organizers to sign up for additional Book Drives (and possibly earn the next level of PVS Awards!) and will also encourage BDOs to invite their friends to participate. Many schools that require or encourage their students to complete volunteer service are especially enthusiastic about their students volunteering with organizations that offer these Awards.

Volunteers seeking a Presidential Volunteer Service Award must be a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident (green card holder) and must be at least five years old. Hours of service must be performed within a 12-month period to qualify for a PVSA.

For information about how to earn Presidential Volunteer Service Awards through your volunteer service with the African Library Project, please see the document **Applicant Instructions** on this page of the ALP website.



Instructions to apply for a Presidential Volunteer Service Award based on hours of service for the African Library Project

Thank you for choosing to volunteer with the African Library Project (ALP). The libraries provided by each Book Drive help promote literacy among school-age children and their families in our partner countries (currently Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, South Africa, Botswana, and Lesotho).

ALP is pleased that renewing our partnership with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award program (<https://presidentalserviceawards.gov/>) enables us to provide additional recognition for the effort and hard work of our volunteers.

To qualify for a Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA), a volunteer candidate must be at least 5 years old, must be a US Citizen or lawful permanent resident (green card holder), and must complete their eligible service within a 12-month period.

Required volunteer hours for various age groups to earn Presidential Volunteer Service Awards are as follows:

Age Range	Bronze Award	Silver Award	Gold Award	Lifetime Award
Kids (5-10 years old)	26-49 hours	50-74 hours	75 or more hours	4000 hours
Teens (11-15 years old)	50-74 hours	75-99 hours	100 or more hours	4000 hours
Young adults (16-25 yrs. old)	100-174 hours	175-249 hours	250 or more hours	4000 hours
Adults (26 years + up)	100-249 hours	250-499 hours	500 or more hours	4000 hours

Note: The age category is determined by the age the candidate was for at least 7 months within the 12-month calendar year of service (beginning at the date of signup). For example, if the person was 16 for 7 months within the year of service, that person would qualify as being a Young Adult (16-25 years old).

Who is the “**responsible elder**” who must sign off on volunteer hours with the ALP? A “**responsible elder**” may be a parent or guardian, a teacher, a club sponsor, or sibling over the age of 18 who can verify the work activity and the hours of service the candidate has performed on the specific dates.

If you are interested in possibly earning a Presidential Volunteer Service Award, please fill out and send in the *Initial application for Award* to let us know of your interest. Then, use the *Record of Hours (“Log”)* to record your volunteer work, hours, and date. Upon successful completion of your target number of hours, please submit your *Record of Hours (“Log”)*, completed and signed by both you (the volunteer candidate) and your **Responsible Elder**, to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org. The African Library Project will submit requests for awards (a personalized certificate of achievement, a letter signed by President Biden, and a commemorative pin) each quarter: January, April, July, and October.

Plans for public recognition of our ALP Presidential Volunteer Service Awards are in the works and will be announced at a later date. We encourage you to send us photos and any media coverage of your ALP volunteer work for possible posting on ALP social media.

Please email any questions to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org. THANK YOU for supporting all our young readers!



Presidential Volunteer Service Awards
Initial application for PVSA from the African Library Project

Directions: First, please be sure you have read carefully the document “Instructions to apply for a Presidential Volunteer Service Award” on the ALP website right next to this form!

Please submit the following information to indicate your interest in possibly receiving a PVS Award with the African Library Project. PRINT NEATLY and use BLACK or DARK BLUE INK only. Email any questions to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org. Please email this completed form to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org. We will use this form to record your initial interest in the PVSA program.

Make sure you have also obtained a **Record of Hours (“Log”) volunteering for the African Library Project**, which is the form you will use to record your volunteer hours that you will eventually submit to request your award.

Volunteer’s Name _____ Volunteer’s Date of Birth / /
First Last MM/DD/YYYY

Responsible Elder’s Name _____ Relationship to volunteer _____
First Last (ex., parent, teacher, etc.)

Email of Volunteer: _____ Email of Responsible Elder: _____

Book Drive Code(s): _____ Name(s) of Library/School(s) where books will go: _____

Please check here to confirm that you are a US Citizen or Green Card Holder (required by PVSA): YES

If you are currently enrolled in school or college, please provide the name and address of your school in the space below:

Name of school: _____

Address of school (street address, city, and zip code) _____

Please write a sentence or 2 (or 3) about why you want to receive a Presidential Volunteer Service Award from ALP.

Thank you in advance for your volunteer service to the African Library Project and for your interest in possibly receiving a Presidential Volunteer Service Award from ALP. For more information about these national awards: <https://presidentalserviceawards.gov/>



Presidential Volunteer Service Awards
Record of Hours (“Log”) volunteering for the African Library Project

Directions: PRINT VERY NEATLY and use BLACK or DARK BLUE INK only. Email any questions to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org. When completed with all signatures, email this form to PVSA@africanlibraryproject.org.

Volunteer’s name _____ Volunteer’s date of birth ____/____/____
First Last MM/DD/YYYY

Responsible elder’s name _____ Relationship to volunteer _____
First Last (ex., parent, teacher, etc.)

Book Drive Code(s): _____ Name(s) of Library/School where books will go _____

Date	Description of your volunteer work for the African Library Project	# of hours	Responsible elder’s Initials
Ex.: 1/6/24	Sorted books by size to prepare for packing for UG5-73	1.5 hours	
TOTAL HOURS ON THIS LOG - Use additional Log(s) to report additional hours.			

Signature of volunteer: _____ Date _____

Affirmation and signature of responsible elder:

I, _____, affirm that I am the _____
(Print name of responsible elder neatly) *(Print elder’s relationship to volunteer)*

of _____ . I affirm that _____ has, in fact,
(Print volunteer’s name neatly) *(Print volunteer’s name neatly)*

completed these activities as documented above. Signed: _____
Signature of responsible elder

Email of volunteer: _____ Email of responsible elder: _____