

Win an Award!

Throughout the United States, millions of volunteers lend their time and talents with enthusiasm and the spirit of generosity. Many companies give back to recognize and reward the important work done by volunteers. Check out these grants sponsored by businesses and/or organizations:

The Congressional Award

The Congressional Award is the U.S. Congress' award for young Americans. The program is open to all 13 ½ to 23 year-olds. Participants earn bronze, silver and gold Congressional Awards and medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas; Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. For further information, please visit <http://www.congressionalaward.org>.

Daily Points of Light Award

The Daily Points of Light Awards are designed to honor those who have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help meet critical needs in their communities. Any individual, organization, group, family, business or labor union actively engaged in voluntary service may apply. To find out more, contact the Points of Light Foundation, <http://www.pointsoflight.org/recognition>. To receive a nomination form, please email awards@pointsoflight.org.

Presidential Service Award

The Presidential Service Award began in 2003 as a way to recognize and encourage volunteers for making positive contributions to their communities. In 2009, the PSA incorporated the Presidential Student Service Award, which recognizes the volunteer accomplishments of those under 25. Volunteers up to age 14 can earn the award using 50, 75, or 100-hour benchmarks and volunteers aged 15-25 can earn the same using benchmarks of 100, 175, and 250. Families are also eligible. Students receive a pin, a certificate, and a letter from the President. Volunteer Fairfax is a certifying organization and can submit your hours for the PSA. For further information, please visit <http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/tg/PSSA/>.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community awards recognize students in middle and high school who have demonstrated exemplary community service. The awards program is sponsored by Prudential in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Award winners are then selected at the local, state and national levels. <http://spirit.prudential.com>

Do Something

DoSomething.org believes teens have the power to make a difference. It is their aim to inspire, support, and celebrate a generation of doers: people who see the need to do something, believe in their ability to get it done, and then take action. To support these efforts, dosomething.org provides a wide variety of grants and awards for youth and teens. To learn more, visit <http://www.dosomething.org/grants>.

