

Dear BHS Parents, Guardians and Students,

The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is a way for organizations, like high schools, to recognize those who give back to their community and school. This award is nationally recognized and can be listed as part of a student's college application to help demonstrate a student's dedication to their school and community.

BHS PTO is a Certified Organization that has been granted authority through an application and review process to administer the PVSA to acknowledge the volunteer and service accomplishments of our BHS students

Each student wishing to earn the PVSA simply creates a free account at [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov), logs their service and volunteer time (hours earned between 1/1/18 through 12/31/18 must be logged by Monday 1/2/2019) and enters the BHS PTO organization code (DSL-60584) under their account profile. Again, hours must be earned between the calendar year of 1/1/18 through 12/31/18 and recorded by 1/2/19. A student may log hours on the PVSA website retroactive back to January 2018. **Documentation for all volunteer/service hours are completed MUST be turned in by January 11, 2019 to the BHS Front Office. Please put in envelope with PTO-PVSA on the front.**

On January 19, 2019 the BHS PTO will begin reviewing the hours logged and documentation provided by the students who chose to participate. If enough hours are logged to earn the award, the hours will be certified and the student will be notified of the award having been earned. We will email all of the students who we received a packet from. If you do not hear from the PTO by the end of January Please reach out to us.

A 2018/2019 graduating 12th grader, applying for colleges in the fall, may also indicate that they will earn the PVSA and it will be conferred on January 30, 2019.

**Students younger than 15 must serve 50 hours to earn the PVSA, and student 15 years or older must serve 100 hours to earn the PVSA.**

Types of service that can qualify for this award include the following:

- 1) Time working to support their extra-curricular activities (i.e. manning the concession stand for their sport; fund raising for activities like JROTC or band; volunteering with their school organization such as NHS, Theatre Arts, Student Council, Special Olympics, Class Officers, Prom Committee, Cheer Clinics, etc)
- 2) Volunteering in the community (i.e. Girl or Boy Scouts, Daily Bread, Young Life, Animal Shelter, etc.)
- 3) Volunteering at church with the *exception of worship services* (i.e. mission trip, Vacation Bible School, food drives are good)

PURCHAED ITEMS FOR HOURS DO NOT COUNT TOWARD THE PRESIDENTS VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD.

For more information visit [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov) or email Mary Urh at [Mary@urhcompound.com](mailto:Mary@urhcompound.com) .  
IMPORTANT DATES:

**Hours of service are earned January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018**

**Hours Must be logged onto PVSA website by Monday January 1, 2019**

**Verification of Hours must be turned in to the BHS office in an envelope with PTO -PVSA on the front by Friday 11 January , 2019 by 4pm.**

Sincerely,  
Mary Urh & Trish Ramsey  
PVSA Chairpersons for BHS PTO

## PVSA Frequently Asked Questions:

*How many volunteer hours are needed to earn this award?* A student must earn 50 hours in a calendar year if they are younger than 15. If the student is older than 15 they must earn 100. If a student turns 15 in the middle of a year, they move to the young adult level and must earn 100 hours

*When must the hours be earned?* The hours are earned through a typical calendar year (January 1 through December 31). A student who volunteered in January may log those hours on their account in May as long as they can get a signed letter from the organization that they served those hours. All hours must be logged and documentation provided by Monday, January 1, 2019. **This is a firm date.**

*May I log hours now back to January?* Yes, you may. As long as you earned the hours within the calendar year you aren't doing anything wrong by logging them now.

*When is the deadline to earn and log the hours?* The hard, fast deadline to log your hours on the PVSA website is Monday January 1, 2018.

*What kind of service qualifies for this award?* Volunteering for extracurricular activities, such as fund raising for band, JROTC or Theatre, are allowable hours. Also, volunteering for community activities such as the animal shelter, a church or other business or non-for-profit are allowable. Activities for which pay is received are not allowable. **Donation of goods or money for hours of service DO NOT count.** More information about allowed hours is on the PVSA website.

[www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov)

*How do I set up an account?* A student creates a user account and profile on the [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov) website. In the account profile information a student then records the **BHS organization code DSL-60584 that** will allow us to see and certify the student's recorded hours when the time comes.

*My child is younger than 15 and PVSA website is asking for parent information, what do I do?* For a student under the age of 15 the PVSA site will ask for parent information when the account is created for this student. The student can still create an account, but due to the age, a parent's information is also required. Just follow the instructions provided at the time of account creation and you will be fine.

*Is it difficult to keep up with logging the hours?* The PVSA website is very easy to manage and is a great tool for keeping up with recurrent volunteer/service events. You can enter a daily, weekly or monthly event with a one-time set up.

*What documentation will I need from the organizations for which I volunteer?* Just a short, hand written or typed statement with an original signature from one of the organization leaders and their contact number (church, animal shelter, etc), which indicates that you volunteered during the time(s) you logged on the PVSA website.

*When will I get the award?* **If you meet the deadlines to record your volunteer hours on January 1, 2019 and turn in your verification of service, then the PTO will begin reviewing your hours in January. You will receive the award in May at the BHS Student Awards Ceremony.**