

Excellence in Community Service

Excellence in Community Service recognition honors students and chapters whose dedication and meaningful contributions enriches communities and makes the world a better place to live and work.



Eligibility

- The chapter must be in good standing with the New Jersey State FFA Association at the time of application.
- Community Service hours will be based on a state report pulled from AET at 11:59 pm on May 1.
- There is no formal submission process for this recognition. Recognition is based on community service journal entries submitted through AET.
- Community Service Hours must meet National FFA Guidelines to be eligible.
 - a. Community service is the engagement of individuals or groups in an organized activity that contributes to the local, national or world community. Community service activities are those opportunities that are available to all residents of a community. They consist of activities that make the community a better place to live and work. It is also known as volunteering which is defined as the practice of people working on behalf of others or a particular cause, without payment, for their time and services.
 - b. See the full guidelines [here](#).

Overview

- Only hours entered in AET will be accepted.
- Chapters will be recognized with the Chapter Excellence in Community Service Award as Gold, Silver, or Bronze.
 - a. Chapters will receive a certificate.
 - b. Gold (400+ hours), Silver (200-399 hours), Bronze (1-199 hours)
- The top 10 students will be recognized with the "Excellence in Community Service Award."
 - a. Students will receive a certificate and a pin.
 - b. Community service hours are based on school year, not cumulative hours over multiple years.

The Application

Awards

- Chapter - Certificate
- Student - Certificate & Pin

Additional Information

- The activity includes tangible community involvement and is focused on helping others, improving community resources or improving community infrastructure.
- The activity provides an opportunity to gain skills and competencies or apply skills and competencies learned in the classroom setting.
- Community members impacted may not primarily be members of the applicants own family.
- Must voluntarily donate time, energy and knowledge outside of any class time, including non-agricultural education class time.
- Performing service in place of other required activities (classwork for example) or for reparations or punishment is not donated time/not voluntary and cannot be counted.
- Community Service activities can be organized by a group the applicant is a part of (FFA Chapter, church congregation, sports team, etc.), but the activity cannot be for the benefit of the group itself.
- Activities listed/hours counted as Community Service cannot be duplicated in the FFA activities section of the journal or as unpaid SAE hours.

Resources

- [Types of Service](#)
- [Living to Serve Grants](#)
- [Planning a Service Project Resources](#)

