

Barbara James Service Award

Recognition Event

Eligible Divisions: Middle School, Secondary & Postsecondary / Collegiate	Recognizes participation in health-related community service activities	Digital Upload: Uses HOSA Activity Tracking System to track volunteer hours
Solo Event: Individual Recognition Event		



New for 2024 - 2025

Clarification has been made regarding approving hours for the event. Editorial updates have been made.

Texas HOSA

Must upload submissions according to the guidelines below before the State Leadership conference deadline

Event Summary

The Barbara James Service Awards allows members to become contributing members of their communities by performing worthy volunteer community service hours related to health. The Barbara James Service Award is in memory of Barbara James, 1982-83 HOSA Inc. Board Chairman. Her leadership skills and contributions to HOSA exemplify the caring and compassion of HOSA members. This award aims to inspire members to be proactive future health professionals and recognize individual HOSA members who have a commitment to volunteer service in health.

General Rules

1. Competitors must be familiar with and adhere to the [General Rules and Regulations](#).

Tracking Hours

2. Members must be officially affiliated through HOSA – Future Health Professionals before proceeding. Members will follow the [Member Instructions](#) for entering activity information and hours in the [Member Activity Tracking System \(HATS\)](#).
3. Chapter advisors will follow the [Chapter Advisor Instructions](#) and [log-in to their chapter](#) to approve or deny hours in the HOSA Activity Tracking System. It is up to the chapter advisor to determine the process they want to use to ensure the hours were volunteered, so they can confidently follow the instructions to “approve” the hours.
4. The HOSA Activity Tracking System direct link is <https://apps.hosa.org/#member-activity/input>
5. **The APPROVED data in the HOSA Activity Tracking System by the published deadline will determine the recipients of this award.**

Timeline and Recognition Levels/Process

6. For international recognition, this event may include activities from June 1, 2024 through May 15, 2025. Activities must be entered and **APPROVED** by chapter advisors in the online HOSA Activity Tracking System by midnight on May 15, 2025. The number of approved hours in the system is what will be used to identify recognition levels at the International Leadership Conference.
7. For Chartered Association recognition, this event may include activities from June 1, 2024, through the Chartered Association published deadline. State Advisors will communicate Chartered Association-level deadlines. Activities must be entered and **APPROVED** by chapter advisors in the online HOSA Activity Tracking System by midnight on the Chartered Association published deadline. The number of approved hours in the system is what will be used to identify recognition levels at the Chartered Association Leadership Conference.

8. All individual HOSA members who complete a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of service between June 1, 2024, and the Chartered Association conference registration deadline (for Chartered Association recognition) or as determined by the state advisor will be recognized. For International Recognition: HOSA members must complete at least one hundred (100) hours of service between June 1, 2024 and May 15, 2025.

Levels of recognition:

- Bronze Level: 100 – 174.9 approved hours
- Silver Level: 175 – 249.9 approved hours
- Gold Level: 250 + approved hours

9. Member names receiving recognition will be posted on the National HOSA website and will receive a certificate. The certificate will be distributed to the State Advisor during the designated registration time at the International Leadership Conference. Those members attending the International Leadership Conference and earning recognition will walk across the stage during the identified award/recognition session to receive a pin. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are not awarded for this event at the international level.
10. Recognition methods at the state level are determined by each state advisor.

Eligible Hours

- 11. DOES THIS ACTIVITY COUNT? Not all volunteer hours provide community service. Only community service hours that are performed for the common good AND related to health should be approved for this event. Activities should be where members apply their time and skills to benefit the community. Advisors must take responsibility to ensure that only true community service hours are approved.**

For Example: You can volunteer to babysit your neighbor's children for free – that's volunteering, but it's not community service. On the other hand, if you volunteer at the local flu clinic helping provide shots to underprivileged children, that is health-related community service and would work perfectly for this event!

Do my service hours count?

Before approving activities, advisors need to determine whether they are related to health or health sciences. In addition, one of the following answers needs to be "yes."

- What service opportunities will help the HOSA member be the best health professional in the future?
- Does the activity make the HOSA member step outside their comfort zone?
- Does the activity provide a service to the community?
- Does this activity meet a need in your community?

A. Examples of Approved Community Service:

- I. Volunteering at a senior center, hospice, or hospital/health facility;
- II. HOSA volunteer activities that serve the community - in the community (flu clinic, community health fair, local food shelter or humane society);
- III. Fundraising for charity or community needs (ie, American Red Cross, March of Dimes, American Cancer Society, local food shelter or humane society);
- IV. Activities that serve the community at large and are health-related (flu clinic, community health fair)
- V. Rescue squad volunteer.

B. Examples of volunteer activities that are **NOT** approved for this award:

- I. General Service to a church (singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, activities for the congregation, etc.);
 - II. Activities that promote HOSA (parade float, fair booth, etc.);
 - III. Activities as part of the HOSA Service Project (see [HOSA Service Project guidelines for this recognition](#));
 - IV. Activities that involve shadowing or observations without providing service;
 - V. Activities that earn HOSA members grades, credits, payment, or other rewards in exchange for service.
12. During the membership years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025, all blood drives hosted with America's Blood Center partner blood centers will be tracked using the process outlined in the new America's Blood Centers and HOSA Blood Drives recognition event guidelines. For these years we are asking chapters not to track these events through the Barbara James Service Award. Blood drive events submitted as a BJSA will not be approved by advisors during these years. For blood drives conducted outside of the United States or where an ABC blood center is not located, they CAN be tracked through the Barbara James Service Award.

OPTION FOR ADDITIONAL LOCAL RECOGNITION

13. Local chapter advisors may order the President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) for chapter members who exceed 100 hours (50 hours for those aged 11-15) of community service.

*Please read the Chapter Advisor Memo in these guidelines for the details. The PVSA will NOT be awarded at the Chartered Association or International levels and is not part of this recognition event. It is an EXTRA award that is tied to volunteering that can be done at the local level if desired.

** President's Volunteer Service Awards can be ordered in the spring and presented at a dignified local ceremony, such as a school-wide awards day, meeting of the local Board of Education, or other occasion where students are recognized for their achievements.

Overlap with other Recognition Events:

14. Activities used for the Barbara James Service Award should NOT be used for American Red Cross Volunteer Recognition. Any activities and volunteerism done through and in conjunction with the American Red Cross should be used in the American Red Cross Volunteer Recognition event. Other community service activities outside of the American Red Cross can be tracked as part of this Barbara James Service Award.
15. Blood Drives with the American Red Cross will count for American Red Cross Volunteer Recognition. Blood Drives with America's Blood Center partner blood centers will count for the America's Blood Center event. Any other blood drive conducted that is not with ARC or ABC should be counted as part of the Barbara James Service Award.



Chapter Advisor Memo

Please encourage your chapter members to participate in service activities and then track those hours on the online HOSA Activity Tracking System.

- ★ Ask a chapter officer to take responsibility for the project. They can help you through the online registration process and encourage other chapter members to get involved.
- ★ Remember, this is service to YOUR community.

At the time these guidelines were published, **anyone who completes 50 or 100 or more hours of community service (depending on their age) can also earn the President's Volunteer Service Award.** The President's Volunteer Service Challenge is a White House initiative that recognizes young Americans with awards and scholarships for outstanding community service while encouraging more young people to serve.

Chapter advisors can purchase and present this award locally by becoming a certifying organization. [Online registration for becoming a certifying organization is outlined here.](#)

- HOSA Awards are earned for 100 or more hours of volunteer service as documented in the HOSA Activity Tracking System.
- **President's Volunteer Service Awards is an optional addition and can be ordered and presented at the local level.**
- **The President's Volunteer Service Award is IN ADDITION to the Barbara James Service Award. Chartered Associations or National HOSA does not award it. It is something additional a local chapter may choose to award.**
- Please visit <https://presidentalserviceawards.gov/> for more information.



Bronze Level
100-174 hours



Silver Level
175-249 hours



Gold Level
250 hours or more

*Recognition levels change for those students aged 11-15. See the website above for specifics.

Don't miss out on this additional opportunity to recognize HOSA members for making a positive difference in their communities!