

Community Service and Essay Contest Information

This \$3000 contest is funded by the Philipsburg Rotary and administered through the Philipsburg Area Education Foundation (PAEF). The intent of this contest and required essay is to get students and adults writing, learning and looking forward to the next level of training needed to be successful citizens, while learning the importance of giving back to their community. It is the intent of PAEF to make two awards: one for a high school student (\$1,500) and one for an adult student (\$1,500) to attend technical training or pursue a college degree. If the contest is not presented in local schools, applications, essays and community service logs will be accepted through the U.S. Postal Service.

ELIGIBILITY:

The contest is open to all 11 grade students and up with residency in Granite County. LATE and/or INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS AND ESSAYS shall not be considered.

TOPIC: Giving Back to the Community is Important and Vital

The ultimate goals of this community service project is to give time and energy to your community in a meaningful way and write a essay worthy of an 11th grade student bound for post-secondary education or technical training.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Complete the Community Service Application (see paefmt.com for application forms)
2. Complete 20 hours of community service – keep a log of hours to attach to the application
3. Write an essay of 500 - 700 words in length – this essay is NOT a recital of your project; rather, an essay about the larger topic: the importance of community service – research data must be included to support claims
4. Essay must have a title that reflects the essay content
5. Essay must be typed using a standard size 12 font and MLA format
6. Essay must include research data: statistics, significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details and/or quotations to support the topic
7. Essay must be informative/explanatory text to examine and convey a complex idea or concept, reflecting Montana Standards for Writing for Grades 11/12
8. Essay must demonstrate conventions of standard English - Montana Standards for Language for Grades 11/12
9. Submit the application, service log and essay by the second Friday in April to the address below. If the contest is not offered in school, please meet the deadline as stated in the EVALUATION section of this document.
10. Place all documents in a clear binder or sleeve with the application form as the first page.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT:

Choose a project of significance to your community, one that extends beyond donating time at the local food bank or thrift store. Babysitting for a family friend, helping Grandma clean out her basement, or watching someone's dog are not examples of community service. Find a project that is a true service to a person or persons in the community; something that is long-lasting and educational. Examples:

1. With the help of a supervisor/mentor, organize a project or outing with seniors or handicapped persons which would entail meeting their identified special needs.
2. Organize and implement an after-school program for young children – sport, art, drama – with appropriate learning objectives, supervision and parental permission.
3. With the help of a supervisor/mentor, develop a menu for a cultural event, cook meal and serve senior citizens, and give a cultural presentation or celebration.
4. Organize and implement a fund-raising event for a case in need – identify need with appropriate authority.

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EVALUATION:

For the high school students, up to three student essays from each Granite County high school shall be chosen by their school's selection process and forwarded for final evaluation and award through a PAEF Scholarship Committee. Your school may require students to prepare presentations of their community service projects, but the PAEF Committee shall only judge the application and essay.

Each school's winning candidates and all adult applications, community service logs, and essays must be mailed by the 2nd Friday in April to: **PAEF P. O. Box 900, Philipsburg, MT 59858**. Mark the envelope "Community Service Essay Contest."

The final essay evaluation shall include standards as listed in the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards: Writing Standards and Language Standards for Grades 11/12: These standards can be accessed at www.opi.mt.gov - Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects by Grade-Band.

AWARD:

The student does not ever receive a cash award; rather, contest awards are processed as follows:

For high school students – awards are maintained in PAEF's endowment fund until graduation from high school. At that time, the student shall designate the post-secondary institution to apply the award. PAEF shall release the award, plus any interest growth it has accumulated, to the designated institution. The base award is guaranteed regardless of potential stock market losses. The award must be used two years from graduation date or will be forfeited.

For adults – awards are mailed directly to the accredited technical training facility or college of your choice. The award must be used one year from the time of award notification or will be forfeited.

The winning student must give consent to PAEF to publish their name and essay in their newsletter and news releases. The winner(s) and their family shall be invited to attend the PAEF Scholarship Reception on the 2nd Monday in May.

Community Service and Essay Contest Application

Name:		Date:	
Mailing Address:		Contact Phone:	
City and State:		Zip:	
Social Security # _____ - _____ - _____		Email address:	
Date of Birth:			
Parent or Guardian Information for 11 th or 12 th graders:			
Father's Name:		Mother's Name:	
School Attended: _____ Drummond _____ Philipsburg _____ Home School or Resident			
Teacher, Instructor, or Mentor's Name:			
Community Service Project:			
Topic for essay: Giving back to the community is important and vital			
Title for your essay:			
Guidelines: The essay shall be type-written using a standard size 12 font. It should be 500-700 words in length and free of grammar and spelling errors.			
Evaluation: Standards for Grades 11/12 as listed in the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) <i>College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards: Writing Standards and Language Standards</i> . These standards can be accessed at www.opi.mt.gov <i>Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects by Grade-Band</i> .			
Authorization of Use: If my essay is judged to be the winner of this contest, I give my consent to its being published in my name in PAEF's publications and news releases.			
Applicant's signature:		Date:	
Parent signature (if required):		Date:	
NOTE: Deadline: second Friday in April. Late and/or incomplete applications and essays shall not be considered. The winners of this contest shall be notified in writing and invited to attend PAEF's scholarship reception at 6:00 pm on the 2 nd Monday in May. The location shall be communicated at a later date.			

Community Service Log Sheet

Hours Logged	Explanation of Community Service	Mentor Signature	Mentor Contact Information: Phone and Email

Use additional sheet to log hours as needed.