

# Community Service and Essay Contest Information

Philipsburg Rotary scholarships are administered through the Philipsburg Area Education Foundation (PAEF). The intent of this contest and required essay is to get Granite County 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 the Rotary to make one or two awards for a total of \$3000. If two qualified applications are received, one award may be for a high school student (\$1,500) and one for an adult student (\$1,500) to attend technical training or pursue a college degree; however, the entire amount may be awarded to one exceptional applicant. 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 and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and adults 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 11<sup>th</sup> grade student bound for post-secondary education or technical training.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Complete the Community Service Application (see [paefmt.com](http://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 - 750 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. 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.
9. 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-age students, up to three student essays from each Granite County high school area shall be chosen for final evaluation and award through a PAEF Scholarship Committee. If your school chooses not to participate, mail the application, essay and community service log directly to the Committee. For adults, send your application packet directly to the Committee. All applications must be mailed by the last Friday in March:

**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](http://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 in April.

# 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 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> graders ONLY:		
Father's Name:	Mother's Name:	
School Attended: _____ Drummond _____ Philipsburg _____ Home School		
Community Service Project:		
Topic for essay: Giving back to the community is important and vital		
Your title for essay:		
<p>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 <a href="http://www.opi.mt.gov">www.opi.mt.gov</a> <i>Montana Common Core Standards for English Language Arts &amp; Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects by Grade-Band</i>. See the rubric for evaluation, but do not print and submit the evaluation page.</p>		
<p>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.</p>		
Applicant's signature:	Date:	
Parent signature (if required):	Date:	
<p>NOTE: Deadline: last Friday in March. 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 in April. The location shall be communicated at a later date.</p>		

# 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.

# Essay Evaluation Rubric

Evaluation Date:

Committee Member Name:

## Evaluation Rubric

Standard #	Standard Description and Examples	Points Given 1 = none or minimally 2 = met the basic criteria 3 = exceptional use
Submission Requirement	This essay is type-written, size 12 font, at least 500 – 750 words and informative essay.	
<b>Writing Standard 2.</b>	<b>Montana Standards are described in bold; Questions for judges are not bold. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts and information.</b>	
2.a.	<b>Introduce a topic and organize complex ideas, concepts and information so that each new element builds on the whole.</b> Does the essay have a title that reflects the overall theme? Is the first line or section of the essay engaging – making you want to read more? Does the essay have a logical structure of concept to follow? A thesis?	
2.b.	<b>Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</b> Does the writer present facts and examples to support the topic? Is there enough data/information presented to substantiate a claim?	
2.c.	<b>Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify topic and related concepts.</b> Does the writer use transition words that show relation to a claim or movement throughout the essay or to conclusion?	
2.d.	<b>Use precise language, domain specific vocabulary and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic.</b> Does the writer use language to make reading more interesting or compelling? Does the writer use writing techniques to make a point or show relation?	
2.e.	<b>Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.</b> Does the writer inject "I" and "my" into the text? Should not. Does the writer express information based on evidence and facts, rather than personal feeling?	
2.f.	<b>Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation provided with significance of the topic.</b> Does the writer provide a conclusion that wraps up the subject by restating the topic and supporting details? Does the writer reflect back on the overall theme with recommendations for the reader as a result of analyzing community service?	
8.	<b>Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, and oral sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a MLA format for citation. Research and data cited in text?</b>	
Language Standard 2.	<b>Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</b> Does the writer spell correctly? Does the writer observe hyphenation conventions?	
	<b>Total Score</b>	