

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

### ARE YOU A MIDDLE LEVEL OR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO'S MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH VOLUNTEERING?



*Apply for a 2017 Prudential Spirit of Community Award and you could win \$1,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., next May!*

- Go to <http://spirit.prudential.com> or [www.nassp.org/spirit](http://www.nassp.org/spirit) to access the online application.
- Complete the application and the student/parent agreement. Deadline: November 8, 2016.
- Go to the "Certification" page to email or print out instructions for your certifier. You must deliver these instructions to your certifier by November 8, 2016. Your certifier can be your school principal or the head of a county 4-H organization, Girl Scout council, American Red Cross chapter, YMCA or HandsOn Network affiliate.
- Your certifier has until November 18, 2016 to review applications online and select Local Honoree(s) from the applicants in your school or organization, and nominate them for state-level judging.

In each state and Washington, D.C., the top middle level and high school applicant will be named State Honorees and will receive an award of \$1,000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., May 6-9, 2017. Runners-up will also be selected in each state and named Distinguished Finalists, receiving a bronze medallion. Other state-level winners will receive Certificates of Excellence. All state-level honorees will be announced in February.

During the trip, 10 of the State Honorees will be named America's top youth volunteers of the year. These National Honorees will receive \$5,000 awards, engraved gold medallions, crystal trophies for their schools or organizations, and \$5,000 grants from The Prudential Foundation for nonprofit charitable organizations of their choice.

All Local Honorees who have committed a minimum number of hours to their volunteer activities will receive the President's Volunteer Service Award.

For application and certification questions, or to request a paper application form, call 877-525-8491.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). Since 1995, the program has honored more than 115,000 youth volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Learn more at <http://spirit.prudential.com> and [www.nassp.org/spirit](http://www.nassp.org/spirit).



**APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 8, 2016**

# THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

*Since 1995, recognizing young people for outstanding volunteer service*



## WHAT ARE THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS?

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards were created in 1995 to recognize students in middle level and high school grades who have made meaningful contributions to their communities through volunteer service. These prestigious awards, sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), are presented annually on the local, state and national level.

## HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

1. Young volunteers in grades 5-12 complete applications online at <http://spirit.prudential.com> or [www.nassp.org/spirit](http://www.nassp.org/spirit) by November 8, 2016, and then submit them to their school principals or to the head of one of these officially designated local organizations: a Girl Scout council, county 4-H organization, American Red Cross chapter, YMCA, or affiliate of HandsOn Network. Applicants and their parents or guardians also must complete the application form's signature page.

2. Each participating school or organization reviews the applications of its students and selects one middle level Local Honoree for every 1,000 students in grades 5-8, and/or one high school Local Honoree for every 1,000 students in grades 9-12.
3. Principals or organization heads certify applications of their selected Local Honoree(s) online by November 18, 2016.
4. The top middle level and high school youth volunteer in each state and the District of Columbia are named State Honorees in February, and two to 10 runners-up in each state are named Distinguished Finalists.
5. Ten of the State Honorees are named America's top 10 youth volunteers of the year by a distinguished national selection committee at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C., in May.

## WHAT DO HONOREES RECEIVE?

- Local Honorees receive Certificates of Achievement from their schools or organizations. Those who qualify will also receive the President's Volunteer Service Award if they have contributed the minimum number of volunteer hours.
- State Honorees receive \$1,000, engraved silver medallions, and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., in May for several days of recognition events, including award ceremonies, sightseeing tours and Congressional visits on Capitol Hill.
- Distinguished Finalists (runners-up at the state level) receive engraved bronze medallions.
- Other top applicants at the state level receive Certificates of Excellence.
- National Honorees receive additional \$5,000 awards, engraved gold medallions, and crystal trophies for their schools or organizations. They also receive \$5,000 grants from The Prudential Foundation for nonprofit charitable organizations of their choice.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any student who:

- is in grades 5-12 as of November 8, 2016, and is a legal resident of one of the 50 states of the United States or the District of Columbia.
- has engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least in part after September 1, 2015.
- completes an application and submits it to a school principal or the head of an officially designated local organization by November 8, 2016.

## WATCH FOR THESE DATES:

### September 2016

Online application form is available at <http://spirit.prudential.com> and [www.nassp.org/spirit](http://www.nassp.org/spirit). Program information is mailed to all middle level and high schools and to officially designated local organizations (see below).

### November 8, 2016

Deadline for students to complete applications online, submit applications to a school principal or the head of an officially designated local organization, and send in signed signature page.

### November 9-18, 2016

Participating schools and organizations review applications and select Local Honorees, then nominate them for state-level judging by certifying their applications online.

### February 7, 2017

Judges name the top middle level and high school youth volunteer in every state and the District of Columbia as State Honorees.

### May 6-9, 2017

102 State Honorees attend national recognition events in Washington, D.C., where America's top 10 youth volunteers of the year are announced.

### Applicants must submit completed applications to one of the following:

- A middle level or high school
- A Girl Scout council
- A county 4-H organization
- An American Red Cross chapter
- A YMCA
- An affiliate of HandsOn Network

## The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Program is widely supported!

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program is sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The program is supported by the National 4-H Council, Girl Scouts of the USA, American Red Cross, HandsOn Network (generated by the Points of Light Institute), YMCA of the USA, the America's Promise Alliance, United National Indian Tribal Youth, the American

Association of School Administrators, the Council of the Great City Schools, the Association for Middle Level Education, the American School Counselor Association, the National Association for Music Education, the National School Boards Association, the National School Public Relations Association, the National Parent Teacher Association, and other national organizations.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://spirit.prudential.com>, [www.nassp.org/spirit](http://www.nassp.org/spirit)  
877-525-8491, [spirit@nassp.org](mailto:spirit@nassp.org)