

PSATS Youth Awards Contest



Pennsylvania State
Association of
Township Supervisors
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025-1291

*Recognizing youth groups who make valuable,
lasting contributions to their communities.*

Has your youth organization completed a
community service project in a Pa. township
of the second class? Enter to win \$500 and
statewide recognition!



Deadline for entries: March 1, 2021

Entry Guidelines

An Invitation to Enter

As a youth organization in Pennsylvania, you are invited to enter the PSATS Youth Awards Contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors. The contest is held each year to recognize youth groups who make valuable, lasting contributions to their communities.

If your group meets the eligibility requirements and would like to be considered for an award, please express your interest to your local board of township supervisors. The board, in turn, will contact the president of the county association of township officials to make the official nomination.

Purpose of Contest

The contest is designed to recognize the valuable contributions made by youth groups involved in community projects that improve the quality of life in Pennsylvania's townships of the second class and encourage greater youth involvement in township government.

Youth groups are encouraged to work with their township government to identify and address specific needs within the community.

Eligible Entrants

All youth groups, such as 4-H clubs, Scout troops, school and church groups, and civic service club youth organizations from elementary school through grade 12 are eligible for the contest.

Eligible Projects

To be eligible, all projects:

- must reflect the activities of a group, rather than an individual (*Eagle Scout and similar projects are eligible as long as additional youth helped complete the activity. Any prize money must go to the group, not an individual.*);
- must involve youth in the planning and implementation;
- **must have a major impact on townships of the second class (governed by boards of supervisors);**
- must have been undertaken during the contest year, March 1, 2020, to February 28, 2021. (*Multi-year, ongoing projects are also eligible provided part of the project occurred during the contest year.*);
- should give the youth group members an opportunity to participate in “learning by doing” activities, increase their knowledge of township government, and develop a sense of personal and group achievement; and
- should enhance the youth group members’ communication skills, understanding of the decision-making process, and citizenship responsibilities.

The Pennsylvania State University’s Extension Office staff may serve in advisory roles on the project.

The following list of projects and ideas will help you determine the types of activities that are eligible for this contest. You are not limited to these categories, and your projects may involve more than one category.

- Park, roadside, trail cleanup projects to facilitate outdoor activity during the pandemic
- Meals/treats, acts of appreciation for health care workers, first responders, and other essential workers
- Distribution of PPE to health care, public safety personnel
- Direct services to residents of the community, such as the elderly, the underprivileged, and the disabled (*e.g., shopping, yard work, etc.*)
- Fund-raising projects for worthy causes **in the township**
- Soil and water conservation; environmental protection; recycling
- Food drives; clothing drives

Note: A single project is better than a list of activities undertaken throughout the year. Choose one or two major projects to focus on and explain in detail how it (they) benefited a township of the second class and its residents.

Nomination Procedure

All contest entrants must be nominated by the association of township officials in the entrant’s county. The county association may initiate the nomination, or the youth group may ask to be nominated.

Ask your local township board of supervisors to put you in touch with the president of the county association of township officials to handle the nomination. A list of county association officers and their contact information can also be found at www.psats.org. Find the link for “County Associations of Township Officials” at the bottom of the home page.

How to Enter

- ➊ To enter, complete the official entry form and have it signed by:
 - the youth project or activity chairman of the youth group;
 - the volunteer adult leader of the youth group; and
 - the chairman of your township board of supervisors.
- ➋ Submit the entry form, along with documentation of the project, to the county association of township officials.

You should ask your local board of township supervisors to help put you in touch with the president of your respective county association of township officials. Be sure to submit your entry to the county association president by **March 1, 2021.**
- ➌ The county association president will sign your entry and send it to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors for judging.

Deadlines

Youth groups — All entrants must submit their entry to the president of the county association of township officials by **March 1, 2021.**

County associations of township officials — County associations must submit the approved entry to the State Association by **March 15, 2021.**

Awards

- Four winners will be chosen from the entrants to receive:
- A framed certificate and a cash award of \$500 each. Each winner may determine the use of its cash award.
 - Coverage of their winning project in an issue of the State Association’s monthly magazine, the *Pennsylvania Township News*, and in their local newspapers.
 - Awards will be presented at PSATS’ Annual Educational Conference April 18-21, 2021, in Hershey.

Judges

The PSATS Youth Award entries will be evaluated in March by a panel of judges consisting of representatives of the State Association’s Executive Board and/or member townships.

Additional Information

- Additional information may be obtained from the following:
- Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors – (717) 763-0930, ext. 123
 - Your county association of township officials (*Your township board of supervisors will be able to direct you to the county association.*)
 - Online at psats.org. (*Choose "Programs & Services," "PSATS Award Programs," and then "PSATS Youth Awards."*)

PSATS Youth Awards Contest

Official Entry Form

Name of group _____

Name of project or activity _____

Township(s) of the second class benefited _____

County _____

Other municipalities benefited _____

Number of youth members _____

Number of leaders: Adult _____ Teen _____ Total _____

Group contact persons: *(Persons to whom correspondence should be directed.)*

Youth name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Adult leader's name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

We, the undersigned, have reviewed this entry and nominate it for the PSATS Youth Awards Contest.

Date _____ Signed: _____

Youth Project or Activity Chairman

Date _____ Signed: _____

Volunteer Adult Leader

Date _____ Signed: _____

Chairman, Township Board of Supervisors

Date _____ Signed: _____

President, County Assn. of Twp. Officials

Please note: Entry form continues on the back of this page.

If not completing this form online, please type your answers on separate, plain white paper, not to exceed three pages, double-spaced. Be sure to answer all 10 questions as thoroughly as possible.

- 1 Date of project: Single-year project
Date started _____ Date completed _____
 Ongoing, multi-year project
Date started _____ Date completed _____
- 2 Describe the project you carried out. Explain what you did.
- 3 Describe individual members' responsibilities, committee assignments, work arrangements, etc.
- 4 Explain how this project benefited one or more townships of the second class. *(Include the approximate number of people influenced, community action initiated, resulting community betterment, and improved community awareness.)*
- 5 What did you hope to accomplish with this project? Did you accomplish your goals?
- 6 Describe how the leaders helped the members to accomplish the group's goals.
- 7 List resource people from outside the group who were helpful. Give name and occupation or interests and explain how they helped the group.
- 8 List community facilities used, such as township buildings, schools, and libraries, and explain how and why you used them.
- 9 What new skills, knowledge, and attitudes did individual members acquire as a result of the group's experiences?
- 10 What are the group's plans, if any, for continuing the project or activity?
- 11 Documentation: Include photographs *(required)*, news articles, letters, or other materials to document your entry. Photographs should be submitted on CD-ROM, DVD, or thumb drive or emailed as jpeg attachments to bwilt@psats.org. Please include dates and names of publications. All printed materials must be contained on 8½ x 11 sheets of paper. *(Include demonstrations, talks, exhibits, radio and TV appearances, news articles, tours, workshops, camps, judging events, field trips, etc.)*

Youth organizations must submit this form to their county association of township officials by **March 1, 2021.**

County association presidents must submit this form by **March 15, 2021, to:**

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
Attn.: Youth Awards Contest
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025-1291

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged based on the following criteria, which account for the score as indicated.

Maximum

Benefits to and Impact on Community.....35 points

- Resulting community, group, and family betterment and action
- Resulting community awareness of project

Township Participation Project10 points

- Worked with local government to plan/complete project

Individual Members' Experiences15 points

- New knowledge, attitudes, and skills acquired
- Project participation experience
- Experience in learning to be a team member

Teamwork Experiences15 points

- Ability of group to identify a problem and develop a plan of action
- Ability of group to involve members and leaders within group to implement the plan of action
- Ability of group to involve other individuals and groups and use community facilities to implement the plan of action

Innovation 15 points

- Originality and creativity of group's project

Project Documentation..... 10 points

- Evidence of group's efforts to publicize and promote the project through local media, church bulletins, etc.
- Unpublished letters and photos

TOTAL..... 100 points





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Website: www.psats.org

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