
The annual ***University Student Volunteer of the Year Award*** honors Fresno State students who have made a difference in our community through exceptional gifts of their time and talent. If eligible, based on financial need, the award recipient will receive a single \$1,500 scholarship. Simply nominating a student affirms and celebrates their efforts to improve the quality of life for those living in Central California. Self-nominations are accepted.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- 1) Proof of extraordinary commitment to direct service that has a demonstrable impact on an issue or need in the Central Valley.
- 2) Preference will be given to students who are involved in volunteer (non-paid, non-stipend) service.
- 3) Service to the University can be included and will be considered, but the primary emphasis will be on direct service and impact in the community outside of the University.
- 4) Nominees must be currently enrolled Fresno State students (undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral).

One nomination per student will be accepted. A selection committee will review nominations and determine the award recipient.

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATION:

Nominations must be submitted using the following link: <https://bit.ly/VOTY26>

NOMINATION DEADLINE:

Nominations must be submitted no later than February 13, 2026.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE NOMINATION PROCESS:

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact Mellissa Jessen-Hiser at mjessen@csufresno.edu or 559.278.7079.

VOLUNTEER NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

MAJOR: _____ . YEAR IN SCHOOL: _____

NOMINATOR NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please keep in mind that service to the university can be included and will be considered, but the primary emphasis should be on direct service and *impact* in the community **outside** the university.

1. Briefly describe the issue(s) or need(s) the student has addressed, and how they have addressed these issue(s) or need(s) through their service in the Central Valley.
(250 words maximum)
2. Describe how this student's service had a demonstrable impact on the community.
(250 words maximum)
3. Are there factors regarding this nominee that makes their service even more exceptional? This may include personal background, exceptional academic achievement, or other factors you believe the committee should know about. (100 words maximum)
4. Was this work completely voluntary, or was the student compensated in any way (scholarship, stipend, etc.)? (50 words maximum)
5. Indicate the approximate number of hours volunteered in the last 12 months.
(50 words maximum)

Please write a **short narrative**, not more than one (1) page to further address this nominee's qualifications.