

What Donations and Hours Can I Put on the Annual Americanism Report?

1. (9) You can claim any boys that you sponsor for Boys State, (10) the cost of that sponsorship, or any donations that help to send a boy to Boys State.
(11) You can claim any girls that you sponsor for Girls State, (12) the cost of that sponsorship, or any donations that help to send a girl to Girls State. (Volunteer hours should be claimed under Community Service)
2. (13) If any squadron members took any of the 5 Star/10 Ideals tests, you may claim the number of participants and the (14) cost of those tests and awards under the Education Category.
3. (15) You may claim all 3'x5'flags that you presented to any schools, organizations, or individuals in your communities, (16) and the cost of those flags that you replaced. (17) You may claim credit for each smaller flag that you placed on a veteran's grave, or gave out at parades or other events (18) and the cost of those flags, (19) and the number of hours spent giving out or placing those flags.
4. (20) Your squadron may claim the amount of money that they donate to scholarship funds, individual scholarships, or Legion and/or Legion Auxiliary Sponsored scholarships (if your squadron doesn't sponsor its own scholarships) If you sponsor a scholarship you may count the amount of money spent on those sponsorships. (Any volunteer hours should be claimed under the remarks or other sponsorships section).
(21) Your squadron can claim the number of hours that its members spend on fundraisers for scholarships, all hours that members volunteer at schools in the community, or any and all educational programs that they put on at schools in the community, such as Veterans Day programs, Tutoring students, Etc.
 5. (22) You may claim any Squadron sponsored Oratorical Contest, (23) the number of contestants that you sponsored, (24) and the cost of the contest and (25)any hours spent putting on the contest.
 6. (26) Your squadron may claim any donations to help sponsor a Color Guard or any Color Guard teams that you sponsored. (27) the number of appearances that the Color Guard made, and (28) the cost, to your squadron, of those appearances, or any supplies that your squadron paid for.
 7. (29) Your squadron may claim any donations that they made to the National Emergency Fund (N.E.F.).
 8. (30) You may claim the number of Flag Etiquette and Flag Education Programs (31) and their costs (32) and the number of hours spent on this program.
(33) You may claim the number of Flag Retirement Ceremonies that your Squadron performs and (34) the number of hours spent performing these flag retirements.
 9. (35) The following items should be classified under Community Service:

- a). Volunteer hours spent as a Coach for any sports teams in your community (baseball, basketball, football, soccer, lacrosse, wrestling, softball, etc. as long as you don't receive payment for your services.)

- b). Volunteer hours spent as a scouting leader.

- c). Volunteer hours spent as a firefighter, paramedic, rescue personnel, volunteer policeman, etc. as long as you don't receive compensation for your services.

- d). Volunteer hours performed for your Post and/or Unit such as repairs to/or for the Post and/or Unit, volunteer hours helping with fundraisers for the Post and/or Unit, assistance with Legion/Legion Auxiliary Programs.
- e). Volunteer hours spent raising money for Medical Research such as MD, MS, Epilepsy, AHA, ACS, UCP, Casey Cares, MD Special Olympics, etc.
- f). Volunteer hours spent as a hospital volunteer, nursing facility volunteer or any health care facility volunteer.
- g). (36) All costs/donations to any of the above mentioned programs such as sports teams **not mentioned before**, donations to fire departments, rescue squads, police departments, police athletic organizations, donations to your Posts and Legion Auxiliaries, donations to any veterans organizations, donations to all medical research programs or hospice and hospital programs, donations made to schools in your community or head start programs, donations to any community food cellars, community shelters or charitable organizations.
- 10. (37) You may claim the number of scouting units (Boys or Girls) that your squadron sponsors, (38) the number of youths involved in your sponsorship, (39) and the total cost of those sponsored.
- 11. (40) Your squadron may claim the total number of youths sponsored for the Junior Shooting Program and Gun Safety Program. (41) Your squadron may claim the total number of hours that were spent on Junior Shooting Sports and Gun Safety Courses taught by squadron members. (42) Your squadron may claim the cost of these courses and/or sponsorships or any donations that were used to help fund these courses.
- 12. (43) Your squadron may claim the number of American Legion Baseball Teams that they sponsored (44) and the cost of those sponsorships. (Volunteer Hours should be claimed under Community Service). (45) Your squadron may claim any other Baseball teams, that they sponsor, other than American Legion teams, and the cost of those sponsorships. (All other sports teams other than baseball should be claimed under Community Service).

Remarks or Other Sponsorships:

You may claim any donations and hours, in this section that you haven't claimed before, in the sections listed above. If you have any doubts as to what you may claim, ask yourself this question. "Does the program that you spent time and/or money on pertain to the good of the Community, State, or Nation?" You may, also, list any donations to the National Emergency Fund (N.E.F.) Program, Toys for Tots or similar programs, in your communities.

You may ***not*** claim money or time spent on attending meetings or conventions or supplies to run your squadron, money spent on hosting meetings, gifts for distinguished guests or money spent on sending members to or attending classes, as these expenses are considered normal operating expenses.

If you still have questions, after following this guideline, feel free to contact Gerald Hammerschmidt for more help email at gshammers@eaglecom.net.

Remember to make sure you sign all forms, put the appropriate title, if required, and date the forms. ***Failure to do this will result in eliminating your hard work from being judged, on the National level and the Detachment level, as well.***