

What Would Service to Our Country Mean to Me

Service to our country provides a crucial opportunity to contribute to a larger purpose, regardless of gender, race, ability or social status. Duty to our nation comprises the commitment to moral values and dedication to democracy, freedom, justice and equality. Moreover, service to America encompasses discoveries that may be profoundly impactful and rewarding.

Prioritizing the welfare of our country *over* personal interests to make a difference is service to our union. Keeping the greater good in mind requires perseverance to overcome hardship. For me, service to our nation would mean following the family tradition of serving in the United States armed forces—a journey several of my aunts and uncles-in-law have bravely embraced and my cousins are proudly embarking on. I have always been inspired by their courage and dedication to American freedom. It would be an honor to continue this legacy by sharing my skills and passion for protecting America's ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Serving our nation can start as a small contribution within our community that can transform into greater impacts. As a young Cub Scout, I collaborated with other scouts to feed the homeless and solicit canned food around the neighborhoods to deliver to the food banks. As the Senior Patrol Leader, I initiated community projects. For example, I led the Memorial Day Flag Placement at the Oak Hill Cemetery to remember those who served our country to protect democracy. Additionally, I am committed to establishing a youth mentoring and tutoring program at my troop as the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. Furthermore, I have been empowering over 120 young children of all skill levels to enhance their critical thinking and communication skills for over two years as the Chess Club Leader at Seven Trees Branch Library where I am the youngest volunteer recognized as the San Jose Public Library Volunteer of the Year.

The sacrifices that my family and others have made inspire me to strengthen America for future generations. Ultimately, serving our country to enrich the lives of our fellow Americans is the most honorable pursuit one can undertake.
