

Chapter 6

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- 6.1. Awards and Decorations: The Cadet Awards and Decorations program fosters morale, *esprit de corps*, and recognizes achievements of cadets and are awarded at the Annual Awards Banquet. Descriptions and criteria are specified below:

-NATIONAL AWARDS-

Gold and Silver Valor Award: Awards consist of medal, ribbon, and citation. The Gold Valor Award recognizes the most outstanding voluntary acts of self-sacrifice and personal bravery by a cadet involving conspicuous risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. The Silver Valor Award is awarded to a cadet for a voluntary act of heroism, which does not meet the risk-of-life requirements for the Gold Valor Award.

Cadet Humanitarian Award: Award consists of a ribbon and certificate and recognizes humanitarian effort or performance by cadets involving actions above and beyond the call of duty.

The Distinguished Cadet Badge: The award recognizes one outstanding second-year (third-year cadet in a 4-year program). The recipient of this award must be of high moral character, demonstrate positive personal attributes, display outstanding military potential, and maintain consistent scholastic and military excellence. The recipient must also hold the following awards prior to selection: Leadership Ribbon, Achievement Ribbon, Superior Performance Ribbon, Academic Ribbon, Co-curricular Activities Ribbon, and Service Ribbon. The recipient of this award wears a distinctive badge on their uniform throughout the course of the year.

“Imagination is more important than knowledge.”

-Albert Einstein

Air Force Association (AFA) Award: This AFA-sponsored award consists of a medal and ribbon and is presented annually at each unit to the outstanding second-year (in a 3 year program) or third-year cadet (in a

4-year program). The award recipient must possess/meet the following personal characteristics and eligibility criteria:

- Positive attitude (toward AFJROTC and school)
- Outstanding personal appearance (uniform and grooming)
- Display personal attributes such as initiative, judgment, and self-confidence
- Courteous demeanor (promptness, obedience, and respect for customs)
- Growth potential (capacity for responsibility, high productivity, adaptability to change)
- Possession of the highest personal and ethical standards and strong positive convictions
- Rank in the top 5% in their AS class
- Rank in the top 10% of their academic class

Daedalian Award: The Order of Daedalians is a fraternity of commissioned pilots from all military services. It is named after the legendary figure, Daedalus, and was organized by WWI military pilots who sought to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism, love of country, and the high ideal of self-sacrifice which placed service to the nation above personal safety and position. This award is offered to encourage the development of these traits in cadets and to interest them in a military career. The medal is fashioned after an ancient Grecian plaque discovered by a Daedalian in the village of Lavadia, Greece and depicts Daedalus and his son Icarus fabricating their legendary wings of wax and feathers. The award also includes a ribbon. This annual award recognizes one outstanding third-year cadet who meets the following criteria:

- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of patriotism, love of country, and service to the nation
- Indicate the potential and desire to pursue a military career
- Rank in the top 10% of their AS class
- Rank in the top 20% of their school class

American Legion Scholastic Award: This award consists of a bronze medal accompanied by a ribbon with a distinctive miniature attachment depicting a scholastic scroll. This award is presented annually to one second- or third-year cadet (in a 3-year program) or a third- or fourth-year cadet (in a 4-year program) based on the cadet's overall scholastic achievements. The cadet must:

- Rank in the top 10% of their high school class
- Rank in the top 25% of their AS class
- Demonstrate leadership qualities

- Actively participate in student activities

American Legion General Military Excellence Award: This award consists of a bronze medal accompanied by a ribbon with a distinctive miniature attachment depicting a torch. This award is presented annually to one second- or third-year cadet (in a 3-year program) or a third- or fourth-year cadet (in a 4-year program) based on the cadet's overall scholastic achievements. The cadet must:

- Rank in the top 25% of their AFJROTC class
- Demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship

“Whether you are talking about education, career, or service, you are talking about life- and life must have joy.”

-Barbara Bush

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Award: This award consists of a bronze medal and ribbon and is presented annually to one third-year (in a 3-year program) or fourth-year cadet (in a 4-year program) that meets the following criteria:

- Rank in the top 25% of their AS class
- Rank in the top 25% of their high school class
- Demonstrate qualities of dependability and good character
- Demonstrate adherence to military discipline
- Possess leadership ability and a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of ROTC training

American Veteran (AMVETS) Award: This award consists of a medal pendant and ribbon and is presented annually to one qualified cadet that possesses individual characteristics contributing to leadership such as:

- A positive attitude toward Air Force ROTC programs and service in the Air Force
- Personal appearance (wearing of the uniform, posture, and grooming, but not physical characteristics *per sé*)
- Personal attributes (initiative, dependability, judgment, and self-confidence)
- Officer potential (capacity for responsibility, adaptability, and maintenance of high personal standards)
- Obtained a grade of “A” in their AS class

- Be in good scholastic standing in all classes at the time of selection and at the time of presentation

Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Award: This award consists of a bronze medal, ribbon, and certificate and is presented annually for military and academic achievement to an outstanding third-year cadet (fourth-year cadet in a 4-year program). The recipient must possess individual characteristics contributing to leadership such as:

- Positive attitude toward the AS curriculum
- Outstanding personal appearance (wear of the uniform, posture, and grooming)
- Attributes of initiative, judgment, and self-confidence
- Courtesy (promptness, obedience, and respect)
- Growth potential (capacity for responsibility, high productivity, adaptability to change)
- Demonstrate the highest personal and ethical standards and strong positive convictions
- Rank in the top 10% of their AS class

Military Order of World Wars: This award consists of a bronze medal pendant, certificate, and ribbon and is presented annually to a first-year cadet. The cadet must excel in all military and scholastic aspects at the time of selection and presentation of the award. The cadet must also indicate through military and scholastic grades, extracurricular activities, and individual endeavors a desire to serve our nation, and are committed to continue the aerospace science program for the school year.

“Character- the willingness to accept responsibility for one’s own life- is the source from which self-respect springs.

-Joan Didion Writer

The Retired Officers Association (TROA) Award: This award consists of a medal pendant with ribbon and is presented annually to an outstanding second-year cadet (third-year cadet in a 4-year program) who shows exceptional potential for military leadership. The cadet must:

- Be a member of the junior class
- Be in good academic standing
- Be of high moral character
- Show a high order of loyalty to the unit, school, and country
- Show exceptional potential for military leadership

Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) Award: This award consists of a medal pendant with ribbon and is presented annually to an outstanding second- or third-year cadet in a 3-year program (third- or fourth-year cadet in a 4 year program) who is actively engaged in the AFJROTC program and who possesses individual characteristics contributing to leadership. The cadet must:

- Have a positive attitude toward AFJROTC
- Have outstanding military bearing and conduct
- Possess strong positive personal attributes (such as courtesy, dependability, punctuality, respect, and cooperation)
- Demonstrate patriotism (being a member of the color guard or drill team) and actively promote Americanism
- Demonstrate leadership potential
- Attain a grade “B” in AFJROTC with an overall average grade of “C” in all subjects for the previous semester
- Be active in student activities
- Not have been a previous recipient of this award

National Sojourners Award: This award consists of a ribbon, medal pendant, and certificate, annually recognizing an outstanding first- or second-year cadet (second- or third-year cadet in a 4-year program) who contributed the most to encourage and demonstrate Americanism within the corps of cadets and on campus. The cadet must:

- Be in the top 25% of their academic class
- Encourage and demonstrate ideals of Americanism
- Demonstrate potential for outstanding leadership
- Not have previously received the award

Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Award: This award consists of a bronze medal with ribbon and recognizes an outstanding second-year cadet in a 3-year program or a third-year cadet in a four-year program who is enrolled in the AFJROTC program. The recipient must exhibit a high degree of leadership, military bearing, and all-around excellence in AS studies and have not previously received the award. The cadet must:

- Be currently enrolled in the AFJROTC program
- Be in the top 10% of their AFJROTC class
- Be in the top 50% of their overall class

Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award: This award consists of a medal, ribbon, and certificate annually recognizes an outstanding second-

year cadet in a 3-year program or a third-year cadet in a 4-year program. The cadet must:

- Contribute the most to encourage Americanism by participation in extracurricular activities or community projects
- Demonstrate academic excellence by being in the top 25% of the class
- Demonstrate the qualities of dependability, good character, self discipline, good citizenship, and patriotism
- Not have been a previous recipient of this award

Military Order of the Purple Heart Award: This award consists of a medal pendant with a ribbon and annually recognizes an outstanding second- or third-year cadet (third- or fourth-year cadet in a 4-year program) who is enrolled in the AFJROTC program and demonstrates leadership ability. The cadet must:

- Have a positive attitude toward AFJROTC and country
- Hold a leadership position in the cadet corps
- Be active in school and community affairs
- Attain a grade of “B” or better in all subjects for the previous semester
- Not have been a previous recipient of this award

“How you spend your time is more important than how you spend your money. Money mistakes can be corrected, but time is gone forever.

-Unknown

Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Award: This annual award consists of a medal pendant with a ribbon and recognizes an outstanding second- or third-year cadet in a 3-year program (third-or fourth-year cadet in a 4-year program). The recipient must demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship. Each cadet must:

- Be in the top 25% of the AFJROTC class
- Demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, discipline, character, and citizenship
- Not have been a previous recipient of this award

Noncommissioned Officers Association (NCOA) Award: This award consists of a medal, ribbon, and certificate and annually recognizes the most outstanding *cadet Noncommissioned Officer*. Each cadet must consistently exhibit the best military bearing, personal appearance, deportment, and leadership ability.

Outstanding Cadet Ribbon: Awarded annually to the outstanding first year, second year, third year, and fourth year cadet. The recipient from each class must be of high moral character, demonstrate positive personal attributes, display outstanding military potential, and attain academic and military excellence.

Leadership Ribbon: Awarded for outstanding performance in a position of leadership as an AFJROTC cadet in corps training activities. Limit this ribbon to *5% of the eligible* group to ensure recognition of cadets who have consistently displayed outstanding leadership ability above and beyond expected performance.

Achievement Ribbon: Awarded for a significant achievement as deemed appropriate by the SASI. Limit this ribbon to 5% of the cadet corps. Individuals may not receive more than one ribbon during a 1-year period.

Superior Performance Ribbon: Awarded annually for outstanding achievement or meritorious service rendered specifically on behalf of AFJROTC. Present the ribbon for a single or sustained performance of a superior nature. Limit this ribbon to *10% of the Corps* to ensure recognition of achievements and services that are clearly outstanding and exceptional when compared to achievements and accomplishments of other cadets.

Commander's Unit Award: Awarded to cadets enrolled during the period a unit's "Outstanding" rating is valid

"Life is a paradise for those who love many things with a passion."

-Leo Buscaglia

Vice Commander's Unit Award: Awarded to cadets enrolled during the period a unit's "Excellent" rating is valid.

Academic Ribbon: Awarded for academic excellence as signified by attaining an overall grade point average of at least “B” for one academic term, in an addition to an “A average in AFJROTC over the same grading period.

Outstanding Flight Ribbon: Awarded each academic term to members of the outstanding flight under criteria determined by the SASI/ASI.

Leadership School Ribbon: Awarded for completion of an approved leadership school program of at least 5 days duration. Add a cluster for outstanding performance or leadership ability at a Leadership School. Limit to 10% of the class.

Drill Competition Ribbon: Awarded to team members who place in a drill competition.

Orienteering Competition Ribbon: Awarded to team members who place in an orienteering meet.

Co-curricular Activities Leadership Ribbon: Awarded for leadership in AFJROTC co-curricular activities (such as dining-in chairperson, military ball chairperson, etc.) The recipient must have demonstrated exceptional leadership in achieving objectives through the coordinated efforts of others. Recipients are decided at the discretion of the GP/CC and the SASI/ASI. The ribbon may be awarded a maximum of four times.

Drill Team Ribbon: Awarded for distinguished participation in at least 75 percent of all scheduled drill team events.

Color Guard Ribbon: Awarded for distinguished participation in at least 7 scheduled color guard events, and 75% of all color guard practices.

Saber Team Ribbon: Awarded for distinguished participation in at least 75 percent of all scheduled saber team events. .

Service Ribbon (Basic): Awarded for 15 hours of participation in school, community, or AFJROTC service projects. Clusters on the basic ribbon designate additional awards of the Service Ribbon.

Longevity Ribbon: Awarded for successful completion of each AS year

“From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life.”

-Arthur Ashe

Physical Fitness Ribbon: Awarded for sustained participation in 75% of all physical training meetings and one of the following: performance at competition OR completion of the PFT.

Recruiting Ribbon: Awarded for participation in 75% of APT meetings. Or recruit two or more cadets into the AFJROTC program.

Activities Ribbon: Awarded for participation in co-curricular activities. The SASI awards this ribbon using locally developed criteria.

Attendance Ribbon: Awarded to cadets with no more than 4 excused absences and no unexcused absences in a school year approved by SASI/ASI.

Good Conduct Ribbon: Awarded to cadets with no suspensions of any kind, no adverse reports from other staff or faculty in a school year.

Dress and Appearance Ribbon: Awarded for wearing uniform on all designated uniform days and conforming to all AFJROTC dress and appearance standards. Limit this ribbon to 25% of the cadet corps.

General Carl Spatz Award, Amelia Earhart Award, General Billy Mitchell Award, General J.F. Curry Achievement Award: These awards are Civil Air Patrol (CAP) awards authorized to be worn by on the AFJROTC uniform in their respective order. Consult any CAP unit regarding specific requirements.

Ground School Badge: Awarded for completion of the honors ground school curriculum option or completion of aviation ground school program.

Flight Solo Badge: Awarded to any cadet possessing a solo flight certificate signed by a FAA certified flight instructor for either powered or non-powered aircraft.

Flight Certificate badge: Awarded to any cadet who possesses a FAA flight examiner pilot's certificate for either powered or non-powered aircraft.

Awareness Presentation Team Badge: Awarded for participation in 75% of meetings and one recruiting activity. Limit to 10% of the cadet corps each year under locally developed criteria.

Kitty Hawk Air Society Badge: Awarded to cadets who are members of the Kitty Hawk Air Society.

American Modeling Association (AMA) Wings: Awarded to cadets who have fulfilled AMA Program requirements.

Model Rocketry Badge: Awarded to cadets who have fulfilled model rocketry program requirements.

Aerospace Education Foundation (AEF) Cadet Academic Award: awarded to rising Junior and Senior cadets for academic excellence as signified by attaining an overall 3.3 GPA with no grade below a "C" on their transcript. The individual must be recommended by the SASI.

Phonetic Alphabet			
A	Alfa	N	November
B	Bravo	O	Oscar
C	Charlie	P	Papa
D	Delta	Q	Quebec
E	Echo	R	Romeo
F	Foxtrot	S	Sierra
G	Golf	T	Tango
H	Hotel	U	Uniform
I	India	V	Victor
J	Juliett	W	Whiskey
K	Kilo	X	X-ray
L	Lima	Y	Yankee
M	Mike	Z	Zulu

"A man's real worth is determined by what he does when he has nothing to do."

-LOCAL AWARDS-

- 6.2 Cadet of the Year The highest award that is presented locally, this honor is reserved for the cadet(s) who have contributed the most throughout the year to the enhancement of the Corps. Any cadet is eligible for this honor, but most likely the selected cadet will have a solid history of performance and service.
- 6.3 Cadet Group Commander's Award This very prestigious award is presented annually to a cadet that the GP/CC feels has demonstrated individual outstanding effort towards the Corps, and has the greatest potential for growth and success within the Corps. A recipient is selected by each commander during the school year and is announced at the Annual Awards Banquet.
- 6.4 Letter Jacket AFJROTC has been authorized to award the McNeil High School letter for AFJROTC participation. Since wearing the school letter indicates that the cadet has performed a service to the school, the community, or the Corps, the following guidelines will be used in awarding the letter/jacket.

As with any other organization, only one jacket may be awarded during a cadet's high school career. Cadets who have already been awarded a jacket for another school activity can still receive an additional letter from the Corps. Students involved in more than one activity must decide for which of these they prefer to be awarded the jacket and let the SASI/ASI know as soon as possible. In order to qualify for this honor, a cadet must verify in writing points earned via his/her personnel file. Letter jackets will be ordered and paid for by ROTC activity money only after SASI/ASI approval. Slashes on the letter are authorized to recognize additional times lettering. **(NOTE: ROTC letter or jacket will be removed from cadets who discredit the corps.)**

- (1) Cadets must be completing a minimum of 3 years of AFJROTC, with a ROTC grade average of 90 or higher. Hold a leadership position for a minimum of one semester and a command or staff position for at least one other semester. Must have accumulated 30 points from the following points list:

- .5 point/semester of ROTC with grade above 90
- .5 point/semester for a leadership position (Time In Grade)
- .5 point/semester for active service to the Corps (Time in Service)
- .5 point for project officer of co-curricular activity
- 1 point for National Award recipients, per award
- 1 point for outstanding cadet
- 1 point co-curricular activities ribbon
- 1 point per service ribbon
- 1 point for special projects as assigned by the SASI/ASI
- 1 point for earning DG at any Leadership School
- 1 point for Kitty Hawk Air Society
- .5 point for attaining NCO status (SSgt – TSgt) as permanent rank
- 1 point for attaining MSgt – Senior MSgt as permanent rank
- 1 point for being a CTO/CTI at SLS or CCSS
- 1 point for MDA Camp or other approved camp as counselor
- 2 points for earning Honor Graduate at any Leadership School
- 3 points for service hours-exceeding 150 per semester

NOTE: Circumstances may allow new/transferred cadets adjusted point values- see SASI/ASI for approval

- 6.5 Outstanding Flight: Outstanding flight is a yearlong competition that results in the award of the outstanding flight ribbon and other bonuses for the members of the winning flight. Outstanding Flight Competition Evaluation Criteria consists of flight grades (uniform, homework, tests, and participation), flight drill, and other activities decided upon by the Senior Class. Exact criteria are to be posted and briefed by 1 October of the current school year.
- 6.6 Cadet of the Month and Staff Cadet of the Month Program: At the last Command Staff meeting of every month, *one* cadet is to be chosen as Cadet of the Month. Another cadet is chosen to be Staff Cadet of the Month. The cadet chosen should be considered to have gone above and beyond the average task performed by the cadets of the corps. *These two cadets must be chosen every month.* When these cadets are chosen, their name is to be posted in the room and they are allowed to wear their respective cords for one month or until the next Cadet of the Month and Staff Cadet of the Month is chosen.