



Uniformed Service Awards

The following document includes all information regarding Uniformed Service Awards. These are awarded during our annual Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC). All Uniformed Service awardees are chosen solely by the service. This includes all aspects of the process from award opportunity communication to final selection. SAME provides the forum for award presentation. Typically, the Service Engineering Chief or representative will present the award at the conference.

Services must provide contact information for the individual awardee, and is responsible for ensuring that the awardee gains approval to attend the event and receive the award. SAME provides a stipend for awardees to attend the conference which includes travel, lodging and conference registration.

SAME provides the physical award. If, for some reason the awardee or a representative cannot be physically present to receive the award, or if SAME is forced to cancel the event for any reason, it will be mailed to the recipient (or unit if a separate ceremony is desired).

Award recipient information is due to SAME in February. Exact deadline dates are communicated to Service Liaison Officers (SLOs). Questions and submission details should be sent to mhelmus@same.org

U.S. Army Awards

Please reference [FLW Pam 672-1](#) for information regarding the nomination process.

Wheeler Medal

The **Wheeler Medal** is named in honor of Lt. Gen. Raymond A. Wheeler, USA.

Presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a civilian or military member of the Army. The medal was first awarded in 1955.

Criteria: Outstanding contributions to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development culminating in the year for which nominated.

Eligibility: Military or civilian member of the Army, active, inactive, or retired.

Sturgis Medal

The Sturgis Medal is named in honor of Lt. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis, Jr., USA. It is presented for outstanding contributions to military troop construction and/or base maintenance by demonstrated technical and leadership ability. The medal was first awarded in 1974.

Eligibility: One to an enlisted member of the Army active component, the Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard in these career fields: combat engineering, construction and utilities, power production, heavy equipment and maintenance, drafting, surveying, printing, special electrical devices instrument repairman, and reproduction repairman.

Nomination Criteria: Accomplishments and contributions to military troop construction and/or base maintenance by demonstrated technical and leadership ability.

Please reference [FLW Pam 672-1](#) for information regarding the nomination process.

Itschner Award

The **Itschner Award**, first awarded by SAME in 1960, is named in honor of Lt. Gen. Emerson C. Itschner, USA. The plaque was presented to the most outstanding U.S. Army engineering company during a year. In 1974, the competition for the Itschner Award was broadened to include the Army National Guard and the Army reserve.

Criteria: Most outstanding U.S. Army engineering company during the year.

Eligibility: One plaque is awarded each year to an outstanding engineering company from each the following:

- United States Army (Active);
- Army Reserve; and
- Army National Guard.

U.S. Navy Awards

Moreell Medal

The SAME Moreell Medal is named in honor of Adm. Ben Moreell, CEC, USN. Adm. Morreell was the National President of SAME in 1941 and was promoted to Admiral in 1946. He is the only Civil Engineer Corps officer ever promoted to four-star rank and is known as the "Father of the Seabees."

This medal is presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a civilian or military member of the U.S. Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. This medal was first awarded in 1955.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in planning, design, construction, public works, administration, research, or development.

Eligibility: Members of the Civil Engineer Corps of the Navy: regular, reserve, or civilian, on active or inactive duty or retired.

Please contact your chain of command for information about the Uniformed Service Awards nomination process. SAME provides a formal ceremony for recipients.

Shields Medal

The Shields Medal is named in honor of Petty Officer Marvin G. Shields, USN, who was killed in action during the Vietnam War and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. He is the only Navy Seabee to have received the Medal of Honor.

Presented for outstanding contributions to facility construction and/or maintenance by demonstrated technical and leadership ability. The medal was first awarded for 1974.

Criteria: Outstanding contributions to facility construction and/or maintenance by demonstrated technical and leadership ability.

Eligibility: Active duty enlisted member of the U.S. Navy in Occupational Field 13 rating.

Please contact your chain of command for information about the Uniformed Service Awards nomination process. SAME provides a formal ceremony for recipients.

Peltier Award

The **Peltier Award** is named in honor of Rear Adm. Eugene J. Peltier, CEC, USN. It is presented to most outstanding engineering units of the U.S. Navy. The plaque was first awarded in 1960.

Eligibility: Naval Mobile Construction Battalions

Criteria: Most outstanding unit

Toner Award

The **Toner Award** is named in honor of LTJG Francis Toner IV, CEC, USN, who made the ultimate sacrifice on March 27, 2009 while serving in Afghanistan. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and Bronze Star with Valor. This medal is presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a military member of the U.S. Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. This medal was created in 2021.

Eligibility: Most outstanding contribution to military and expeditionary engineering through initiative and achievement in project planning, design, contracts, public works, research, or development.

Criteria: O1 - O3 active duty and reserve component Civil Engineer Corps officers.

U.S. Air Force Awards

Newman Medal

The **Newman Medal** is named in honor of Maj. Gen. James B. Newman, Jr., USAF. Presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a civilian or military member of the U.S. Air Force. This medal was first awarded in 1955.

Eligibility: Members of the U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer at Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, at Major Air Commands, Bases, or other Civil Engineering units, regular, reserve, U.S. National Guard, or civilian, on active or inactive duty or retired.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development. Click [here](#) for detailed criteria and nomination procedures. *You must have a CAC card to view this site.

Goddard Medal

The **Goddard Medal** is named in honor of Maj. Gen. Guy H. Goddard, USAF. Presented for outstanding contributions to military engineering, including military troop construction, base maintenance, and contingency engineering. The medal was first awarded in 1973.

Criteria: Outstanding contributions to military engineering, including military troop construction, base maintenance, and contingency engineering. Click [here](#) for detailed criteria and nomination procedures. *You must have a CAC card to view this site.

Nomination and Selection Process: Nominations from all three groups below will be accepted, however there will **ONLY** be **ONE** overall award recipient.

- an enlisted member of the United States Air Force active component;
- an enlisted member of the Air Force Reserve;
- an enlisted member of the Air National Guard.

Curtin Award

The Curtin Award is named in honor of Maj. Gen. Robert H. Curtin, USAF. It is presented for the most outstanding Air Force Civil Engineering unit during the calendar year. The plaque was first awarded for 1966.

Criteria: Most outstanding unit in three categories: small, large and Air Reserve Component. Click [here](#) for detailed criteria and nomination procedures. *You must have a CAC card to view this site.

Eligibility: Unit of the United States Air Force Civil Engineer, Air Force Major Air Command, or other Air Force Civil Engineering activity.

U.S. Coast Guard Awards

Oren Medal

The Oren Medal is named in honor of Rear Adm. John B. Oren, U.S. Coast Guard. It is presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a civilian or military member of the U.S. Coast Guard. This medal was first presented in 1968.

Criteria: Outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development.

Eligibility: Regular or reserve U.S. Coast Guard officer in an active, inactive, or retired status; or a U.S. Coast Guard civilian employee, or retiree, of equivalent grade.

Sargent Medal

The **Sargent Medal** is named in honor of Vice Adm. Thomas R. Sargent, III, USCG. It is presented in recognition of the most outstanding contribution to U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering or Facilities Engineering. The medal was first awarded in 1980.

Criteria: Outstanding contribution to Coast Guard Civil Engineering or Facilities Engineering.

Eligibility: Active-duty Coast Guard Warrant Officer, Chief Petty Officer, or Petty Officer; or a civilian employee of equivalent grade.

Cowart Award

The **Cowart Award** is named in honor of Vice Adm. Kenneth C. Cowart, U.S. Coast Guard. It is presented for outstanding contribution to the U.S. Coast Guard civil engineering and shore facility management programs. This plaque was first awarded for 1968.

Criteria: Outstanding contribution to the U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering program.

Eligibility: Awarded annually to a U.S. Coast Guard Civil Engineering and a Facilities Engineering organization.

U.S. Public Health Service Awards

Green Medal

The **Green Medal** is named in honor of Rear Adm. Richard Stedman Green, USPHS. The medal is presented for outstanding contribution to public health engineering and science by a U.S. Public Health Service officer. It was first awarded in 2000.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution in public health engineering and science.

Eligibility:

- U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) officer O3 or below;
- Active, inactive, or retired USPHS officer, or;
- USPHS civilian employee, active or retired, of equivalent grade.

Hollis Medal

The **Hollis Medal** is named for Rear Adm. Mark D. Hollis, USPHS. The award is presented for outstanding contributions to military engineering by a U.S. Public Health Service officer. This medal was first awarded 2000.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development.

Eligibility: A U.S. Public Health Service officer level O4 or above whether active, inactive or retired. Also a USPHS civilian employee, active or retired, of equivalent grade.

Cumming Award

The **Cumming Award** is named in honor of former Surgeon General Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, USPHS. It is presented for outstanding contributions in public health engineering and science. The plaque was first awarded in 2000.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution in public health engineering and science.

Eligibility: OPDIV organizations of the U.S. Public Health Service.

U.S. Marine Corps Service Awards

Outstanding Senior Engineer Officer

Presented for outstanding contributions to military engineering by senior Engineers, Utilities, or EOD Officers and SNCOs serving at a Major Subordinate Command (MSC) or higher. The award development was a joint effort between SAME and the U.S. Marine Corps Engineering Association and was first awarded for 2008.

Eligibility: Members of the U.S. Marine Corps, regular, reserve, who serve as engineering officers.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development. MCEA will convene a panel each year to select one officer from among five award categories from the MCEA Awards Program.

Outstanding Senior Engineer SNCO

Presented for outstanding contribution to military engineering by a senior noncommissioned officer of the U.S. Marine Corps. The award development was a joint effort between SAME and the U.S. Marine Corps Engineering Assoc. and was first awarded in 2009.

Eligibility: Members of the U.S. Marine Corps, regular, reserve, who are senior NCOs serving in engineering.

Criteria: Most outstanding contribution to military engineering through achievement in design, construction, administration, research, or development. MCEA will convene a panel each year to select one staff NCO from four award categories from the MCEA Awards Program

This award is presented by the US Marine Corps Engineering Association on behalf of both organizations.

U.S. Military Academy Award

David M. Fraser Award

The David M. Fraser Award for Engineering Excellence and Leadership is named for a Class of 2004 graduate of the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point. While a cadet, David Fraser excelled as a student, leader, and athlete. A civil engineering major, he designed and built a pedestrian bridge near the West Point Youth Activities Center as his senior project.

First presented in 2011, the David M. Fraser plaque is awarded each year at the Engineer Dinner sponsored by SAME and the Army Engineer Association. Awardees are entitled to a SAME Career Membership if they remain in uniform – active, guard or reserves. A stipend to attend a future SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) – reimbursement up to \$1,250.00 for registration fee, airfare and hotel is also provided.

Fraser was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in May 2004 and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He was killed in action while deployed in Iraq.

- USMA First Class Cadet who has Branched Engineers and will be receiving a degree in one of the following disciplines
 - Chemical Engineering
 - Civil Engineering
 - Computer Science
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Engineering Management (Various ABET tracks)
 - Environmental Engineering
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Nuclear Engineering
 - Systems Engineering
- A minimum 3.0 CQPA (Cumulative Quality Point Average - Academic, Military and Physical)

Selection Criteria

- An informal leader and role model in the graduating class.
- Has taken part in engineer related activities, including, but not limited to:
 - Sapper school
 - Engineering-related AIAD
 - SAME Student Chapter leader, organizer, member
 - Community service tied to engineering effort

Selection Process

- The Engineer Branch Representative sends a note to all cadets who branched Engineers listing the above award guidelines and soliciting nominations.
- The nomination would include a short synopsis of how the nominee meets the award guidelines.
- A faculty committee (C&ME, SE, CHEM, PANE, EECS and GENE Representatives) reviews the nominations and establishes the list of nominees who meet the eligibility criteria.
- The Engineer Branch Representative sends the list of eligible contenders to all cadets who have branched Engineers requesting their vote for the top two candidates.
- The award recipient is selected based on cadet voting. If a tie occurs, the faculty committee would break the tie. Only one award will be made.

This award is presented during the USMA Engineer Dinner by the Executive Director of SAME