**Awards and Award Criteria**

**In order of precedence:**

**Special Awards**

1. Gold Valor Award

2. Silver Valor Award

3. Cadet Humanitarian Award

4. Community Service with Excellence Award

**National Awards**

5. Air Force Association Award

6. Daedalian Award

7. American Legion Scholastic Award

8. American Legion General Military Excellence Award

9. Daughters of the American Revolution Award

10. American Veterans Award

11. Reserve Officers Association Award

12. Military Order of World Wars Award

13. Military Officers Association Award (formerly called “The Retired Officers Association Award”)

14. Veterans of Foreign Wars Award

15. National Sojourners Award

16. Sons of the American Revolution Award

17. Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award

18. Military Order of the Purple Heart Award

19. Air Force Sergeants Association Award

20. Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Award

21. Sons of Confederate Veterans H.L. Hunley Award

22. Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated Air Force Junior ROTC Cadet Award

23. The Retired Enlisted Association Award

24. The Celebrate Freedom Foundation Award

25. National Society United States Daughter of 1812

26. Air Commando Association Award

**AFJROTC Awards**

27. Distinguished Unit Award and Distinguished Unit Award w/Merit

28. Outstanding Organization Award

29. Aerospace and Technology Honors Camp Ribbon (uses the same ribbon as the Leadership School Ribbon and add the H device)

30. Outstanding Flight Award

31. Top Performer Award

32. Outstanding Cadet Ribbon

33. Leadership Ribbon

34. Achievement Ribbon

35. Superior Performance Ribbon

36. Academic Ribbon

37. Leadership School Ribbon

38. Special Teams Competition

39. Orienteering Ribbon

40. Co-curricular Activities Leadership Ribbon

41. Drill Team Ribbon

42. Color Guard Ribbon

43. Saber Team Ribbon

44. Marksmanship Ribbon

45. Good Conduct Ribbon

46 Service Ribbon

47. Health and Wellness

48. Recruiting Ribbon

49. Activities Ribbon

50. Attendance Ribbon

51. Dress and Appearance Ribbon

52. Longevity Ribbon

AFJROTC cadets are authorized to wear ribbons earned while enrolled in United States Army, United States Navy, or United States Marine Corps JROTC. AFJROTC cadets will wear AFJROTC ribbons above and to the left of other service JROTC ribbons or awards. Other services’ ribbons are grouped by service in the following order: Army, Navy, and Marine Corps.

Badges or insignia from Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, or any other non-AFJROTC group are not authorized on the AFJROTC uniform. Badges, ribbons or insignia from middle school programs such as Youth Leadership Corps are not authorized on the AFJROTC uniform.

Valor awards from all services are worn ahead of all other ribbons from any service. The AFJROTC Valor Awards will be worn first, with other services’ Valor Awards worn in the following order: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

**Descriptions and Criteria.**

**Gold Valor Award.** Awards consist of a medal, ribbon, and certificate. 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.

**Silver Valor Award.** Awards consist of a medal, ribbon, and certificate. The Silver Valor Award is awarded to a cadet for a voluntary act of heroism which does not meet the risk-of-life requirements of the Gold Valor Award.

**Cadet Humanitarian Award.** Award consists of a ribbon and certificate. It is intended to recognize cadets who provide aid in response to a singular extraordinary event such as a natural disaster or other catastrophe that has placed or has the potential to place a hardship on their fellow citizens. This award is not to be used to recognize day-to-day service in the community.

**Community Service with Excellence Award.** Award consists of a ribbon and certificate. It is intended to recognize those individual cadets who provide significant leadership in the planning, organizing, directing, and executing of a ***major*** unit community service project that greatly benefit the local community. This is not an award given to participants but to the key leader(s) of the project. Validation for award should include a detailed description of the contributions of the individual(s) along with newspaper clippings (if available) describing the outcome of the project, letters of appreciation from civic leaders, or other information deemed appropriate to validate eligibility.

**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).

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 ideals of self-sacrifice which place 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 at each unit that 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. Each cadet must:

* Rank in the top 10% of the 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 general military excellence. Each cadet must:

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

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Award. This award consists of a bronze medal and ribbon.

This award 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 JROTC training.

American Veterans (AMVETS) Award. This award consists of a medal pendant and ribbon.

This award is presented annually to one qualified cadet that possesses individual characteristics contributing to leadership such as:

* A positive attitude toward AFJROTC programs and service in the Air Force.
* Personal appearance (wearing of the uniform, posture, and grooming, but not physical characteristics per se).
* 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” (or the numerical equivalent) 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.

This award 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, ethical standards & strong positive convictions.
* Rank in the top 10% of their Aerospace Science class.

Military Order of World Wars Award. This award consists of a bronze medal pendant, certificate, and ribbon.

This award is presented annually to an outstanding cadet who has committed to continue the aerospace science program the following school year. Selection is based on outstanding accomplishments or service to the AFJROTC unit.

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Award. This award consists of a medal pendant with ribbon.

This award is presented annually to an outstanding second-year cadet (third-year cadet in a 4-year program) who shows exceptional potential for military leadership. Each 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.

 Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Award. This award consists of a medal pendant with ribbon.

This award 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. Each 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 of “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 previous recipients of this award.

National Sojourners Award. This award consists of a ribbon, medal pendant, and certificate.

This award is presented 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. Each 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.

This award recognizes an outstanding second-year cadet in a 3-year program or third-year cadet in a 4-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 Aerospace Science studies and not have previously received the award. Each cadet must:

* Be currently enrolled in the AFJROTC program.
* Be in the top 10% of their AFJROTC class.
* Be in the top 25% of their overall class.

Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction Award.This award consists of a medal, ribbon, and certificate.

This award annually recognizes an outstanding second-year cadet in a 3-year program or third-year cadet in a 4-year program. Each 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 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.

This award 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. Each 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.

Air Force Sergeants Association (AFSA) Award.This annual award consists of a medal pendant with a ribbon.

This award recognizes an outstanding second- or third-year cadet in a three-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.

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Award.** This award consists of a medal pendant with a ribbon.

This award recognizes one deserving cadet annually (may be first, second, third, or fourth year cadet). The recipient must display a high degree of patriotism and have demonstrated a high degree of academic excellence and leadership ability.

**Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated (TAI) Air Force JROTC Cadet Award.** This TAI sponsored award consists of a ribbon and a certificate.

This award is presented annually to two cadets. Cadets may be first-year, second-year, or third-year cadets (in a 3- or 4-year program) and must meet the following criteria:

* Attain a grade of “B” or better in their Aerospace Science class.
* Be in good academic standing.
* Actively participate in cadet corps activities.
* Participate in at least 50% of all unit service programs.

**The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) Award.** This award is presented annually, at the SASI’s discretion, for exceptional leadership to the most outstanding AFJROTC cadet while serving in an Enlisted Rank. The selected enlisted cadet must have shown outstanding leadership throughout the course of the school year. This award consists of a medal set with ribbon and a certificate from TREA.

**The Celebrate Freedom Foundation.** This award is presented annually, at the SASI’s discretion, for outstanding performance in academics and cadets corps activities as a first or second year JROTC cadet. This award consists of a ribbon and a certificate.

**National Society United States Daughters 1812 Award.** This award is presented annually, at the SASI’s discretion, for academic excellence, leadership, military discipline, dependability, patriotism and upright character in speech and habits. This award consists of a ribbon, medal and certificate.

**Air Commando Association Award.** This award is presented annually at the SASI’s discretion for completing a one page essay based on a historical AF Special Operations Mission possessing the thirteen critical attributes of success: integrity, self-motivation, intelligence, self-discipline, perseverance, adaptability, maturity, judgment, selflessness, leadership, skilled, physical fitness and family strength. This award consists of a ribbon and certificate

**Distinguished Unit Award (DUA).** Awarded to cadets enrolled during the academic year when a unit is selected by HQ AFJROTC to receive the DUA.

**Outstanding Organization Award.** Awarded to cadets enrolled during the academic year when a unit is selected by HQ AFJROTC to receive the OOA.

**Outstanding Flight Ribbon.** Awarded each semester to members of the outstanding flight that best meets the criteria established in this Cadet Guide in Chapter 2, Sections A and B.

**Top Performer Award.** The Cadet Top Performer Award is a Headquarters, AFJROTC award presented to a maximum of 2% of the current unit cadet corps population. All currently enrolled cadets may be considered. Specific consideration should be given to cadets not previously recognized for superior performance. The award will recognize a cadet’s performance in the following key areas:

* Leadership and job performance: in primary duty and specifically in preparation for the unit’s annual assessment.
* Leadership qualities: involvement and positions held in extracurricular activities.
* Academic performance: nominee must be in good academic standing in all high school course work.
* Other considerations: significant self-improvement, community involvement and other accomplishments.

**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 annually for outstanding performance in a position of leadership as an AFJROTC cadet. Is awarded in recognition of cadets who have consistently displayed outstanding leadership ability above and beyond daily expected performance.

**Achievement Ribbon.** Awarded annually for a significant achievement during the course of each academic year. Each cadet can only earn one achievement ribbon per year. Examples of achievements considered for award are significantly improved GPA, successful completion of special projects, etc.

**Superior Performance Ribbon.** Awarded annually for outstanding achievement or meritorious service rendered specifically on behalf of AFJROTC. This ribbon will be presented for a single or sustained performance of a superior nature. Award is limited to recognition of achievements and services which are clearly outstanding and exceptional when compared to achievements and accomplishments of other cadets.

**Academic Ribbon.** Awarded each semester for academic excellence as signified by attaining an overall grade point average of at least “B”, in addition to an “A” average in AFJROTC.

**Leadership School Ribbon.** Awarded for completion of an approved leadership school program of at least 5 days duration.

**Special Teams Competition Ribbon.** Awarded to team members for placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in an Air Force or Joint Service Competition to include Color Guard Teams, Rifle Teams, Drill Teams, Saber Teams, Academic Bowl Teams, CyberPatriot, etc.

**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. This award may be earned a maximum of four times per cadet. An oak leaf cluster should be added to this ribbon for each additional award.

**Drill Team Ribbon.** Awarded for participation in at least two Drill Team events per year. Must also participate in at least 50% of all scheduled Drill Team practices. An oak leaf cluster should be added to this ribbon for each year of qualifying membership beginning with the second year.

**Color Guard Ribbon.** Awarded for participation in at least two Color Guard events per year. Must also participate in at least 50% of all scheduled Color Guard practices. An oak leaf cluster should be added to this ribbon for each year of qualifying membership beginning with the second year.

**Good Conduct Ribbon.** Awarded each semester to cadets with no tardiness or truancy, no suspensions of any kind, and no adverse reports from other staff or faculty.

**Service Ribbon.** Awarded for distinctive performance in school, community, or AFJROTC service projects. Award is limited to members whose active participation in a service project contributed significantly to the goals of AFJROTC. A minimum of 20 hours of community service must be accumulated to qualify for this award.

*\* Participation in Drill Teams, Saber Teams or Color Guard Teams does not qualify for the Service Ribbon (see above criteria for Drill Team Ribbon) unless community service hours are awarded within established local criteria.*

**Health and Wellness Ribbon.** Awarded for active participation in the health and wellness program. All cadets who participate in the Presidential Physical Fitness Program and score in the 75-84 percentiles will receive a second Health and Wellness Ribbon and a Bronze Star device. If a cadet earns a percentile score of 85-95 they will receive a second Health and Wellness Ribbon and wear a Silver Star. If they receive a 96-100 percent they will receive a second Health and Wellness Ribbon and they will wear the Gold Star on the ribbon. The percentiles are computed automatically under Presidential Physical Fitness Program Assessment in WINGS.

**Recruiting Ribbon.** Awarded for outstanding effort in support of unit recruiting activities. Cadets must recruit at least one AFJROTC member annually to qualify for this award.

**Activities Ribbon.** Awarded annually for participation in at least two co-curricular activities other than those that qualify for the *Color Guard, Drill Team,* and *Special Teams Competition* ribbons. These include, but are not limited to orienteering teams, model rocketry clubs, AFJROTC academic teams, and AFJROTC sports teams. An oak leaf cluster should be added to this ribbon for each year of membership beginning with the second year.

**Attendance Ribbon.** Awarded each semester to cadets with no more than 4 excused and no unexcused absences from school.

**Dress and Appearance Ribbon.** Awarded each semester to cadets who wear the uniform on all designated uniform days (or specified makeup days) and who routinely conform to ALL uniform dress and appearance standards (see attached uniform inspection criteria).

**2.2.52. Longevity Ribbon.** Awarded annually for completion of each academic year.