



THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA SCHOOL AWARD MEDAL PROGRAM

The School Medal is the highest honor awarded to American Youth by the American Legion. It is a medal that proclaims to the world that this boy or girl is the kind of young person we believe worthy of such an honor.

The American Legion School medal awards program is designed to:

- Place emphasis on the development of the qualities of **Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service.**
- Develop the ideals of Americanism among young people which will make them citizens of the highest caliber.
- Give recognition through the award of American Legion School Medals to the boy and girl who have demonstrated the highest qualities of citizenship and of true Americanism

One male and one female student are selected from the graduating class of elementary, middle and high schools to receive the School Medal.

We must recognize the student who best demonstrates all the desired qualities of Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service for the American Legion School Medals program.

School Medals and certificates are provided free to participating schools. The school's responsibility is to select the boy and girl to be awarded the School Medal. School medals are normally presented by a Legionnaire at the school's end of year awards program.

If your school would like to participate this year, please fill out the following pages and submit them to your local American Legion Post. Once the Post has received the School Medal Order Form they will contact you.

If you have any questions with locating a Post near you contact Programs Director, Elizabeth Douglas at 800-393-3378 ext. 235 or edouglas@floridalegion.org

For God and Country,

Troy Horsley
Department School Medals Chairman
troy.horsley68@outlook.com



AMERICAN LEGION SCHOOL MEDALS

STUDENT SELECTION

School administration will appoint a committee, who will **select one male and one female student** from the graduating class. If possible, at least one veteran working at the school should be on the committee.

The committee will select the medal recipients based on these criteria:

- **Courage** - Bravery in the face of opposition and danger, determination and force to do right without public applause and regardless of personal advantage: a quality of the intellect.
- **Honor** - Highly-developed moral character, moral excellence, strength and stability of character, high standards of conduct, devotion to duty, adherence to truth, keen sense of what is right, practice of clean speech and thoughts.
- **Leadership** - Ability to lead and to accomplish through group action, ability to work in harmony and in unison with other leaders in accomplishing group results, desire and ability to fill the voids in the lives of others caused by timidity, illness and other handicaps.
- **Patriotism** - An ideal of loyal Americanism, religious tolerance, righteous freedom and the willingness to defend our Flag against all enemies - foreign and domestic.
- **Scholarship** - Attainments in school studies, quality of school work reflecting the fine traits of industry, perseverance, efficiency and intelligence,
- **Service** - Kindliness, unselfishness, fellowship, protection of the weak, promotion of the interests and the welfare of associates and constructive aid for the support of schools and community.

The students selected should be the ones who exemplify all of these traits, not merely one or two of them.

The deadline for returning this information is two weeks before your scheduled graduation ceremony. The more lead time, the better the chances of having an American Legionnaire or Veteran present the medals to your students.



School Medal Order Form

Please type or print all information clearly

To: School Medals Awards Chairman, American Legion Palm Valley Post 233
560 N. Wilderness Trail Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

The below students have been selected as this year's recipients of the American Legion School Medal:

Male Student: _____
First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

Female Student: _____
First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

Name of school: _____

School point of contact: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Date and time of presentation: _____

Location of presentation: _____

Is there a Veteran at the school willing to do the presentation on behalf of the American Legion?

If so:

Name of Veteran: _____

Email address: _____



AMERICAN LEGION SCHOOL MEDALS PRESENTATION INFORMATION

Legionnaires: _____

School: _____

Presentation date/time: _____

Presentation location: _____

Point of Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Male Student: _____

Female Student: _____

Call your school several days before the presentation and confirm that there have not been any changes.

If you are unable to do the presentation or there are any last minute problems call _____.

Thank you for your time and service to making America's children better by recognizing their achievements to promote good moral values.



AMERICAN LEGION SCHOOL MEDALS AWARDS

SUGGESTED SCHOOL PROGRAM

Presenting the medals and certificates:

1. Briefly introduce yourself and your military background
2. The American Legion School Medal program is sponsored locally by American Legion Post (number) located on (address of post)
3. Ask all veterans in the audience to stand for a moment of recognition
4. Call the students receiving the School Medals Awards forward
5. This citation is read:

"The School Medal is the highest honor awarded to American Youth by the American Legion. It is a medal that proclaims to the world that you are the kind of student that we, the comrades of men and women who gave their lives in battle, believe worthy of such honor. It is our desire that wherever you go, and whatever you do, you will always be guided by the highest ideals."

"These students were selected for these traits: Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service."

6. Present the medals and certificates to the students

After the awards presentation remind the school:

Each American Legion post has a historian who compiles information concerning the School Medals program for presentation to both our State and National Department Commanders. Strong positive feedback insures that this program will continue to be offered in the future.

If possible, please provide feedback regarding the Awards Ceremony to American Legion Post (number) or email the feedback to (post/district chairperson).- If any photos were taken, we ask that a copy also be sent or emailed.

Thank you for participating in the American Legion School Medals Awards Program this year.