American Legion School Awards Programs
Developing future leaders ... Today

**Purpose:** The purpose of the American Legion youth award programs is to develop America’s future leaders by motivating and encouraging youth as well as recognizing exceptional performance in the areas of JROTC / ROTC, Citizenship, Americanism, Scholarship, Music, Athleticism and Essay endeavors. This program cannot be accomplished without at least minimal general guidelines for delineating the level of awards that would be appropriate commensurate with the youth efforts as acknowledged by parents, youth leadership, and school counselors. These general guidelines are not published by the national office of the American Legion or any of the Posts. General guideline suggestions or recommendations are intended to assist the Post, citizens, family members, school counselors and youth leadership on acceptable criteria for awarding these awards from the Post or Legion. Additionally, these guidelines will assist in the current disconnect between American Legion and the schools today by suggesting a viable missing link that can help facilitate communications between the legion post and the schools they are affiliated with. This missing link is the Parent Advisory Councils (PAC) and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA).

**Background:** The American Legion does not have paid positions to oversee these programs. Many of the school counselors cannot understand these programs even though introduced by the Legions, as most do not have a military background to support understanding of the core values, spirit and intent of these programs. Furthermore school counselors are not so inclined to promote these programs, due to the vagueness of award criteria; and the additional workload and time constraints imposed by the schools. Currently all these awards are highly subjective without any definitive criteria, making the programs nearly impossible for the civilian to understanding. This also impacts the individual with the military background to discern the appropriate award or level of award that should be utilized to acknowledge the youth endeavors. For the program to succeed, the program must be simple – to understand, promote and administer.

Scholastic achievement, superior skills in arts and athleticism, as well as citizenship and Americanism recognition is critical in the secondary schools, often measured by colleges for admission to identify the best qualified high achiever. Notwithstanding, the critical function of motivating the primary school youth to excel is firmly imbedded in recognition for high achievement, often overlooked or marginalized by the school system. This program will bridge the gap.

**Areas of Responsibility:** Posts are assigned regions that encompass the schools (elementary, middle and high school) that exist within their local regional boundary, as dictated by the number of available Posts and reasonable division of the existing schools among the Posts. The school may submit the award requests to the (local) regional Post, but in the absence of the Post or the inability of the Post to process the award, an alternate Post may be used to submit the award(s). Local regional Posts should support these awards as fully as practicable. In the absence or inability of a local Post to process the award(s), the award request may be submitted to the respective State American Legion office.

Second through fifth subsequent awards of the same level may be indicated by the attachment of a gold 5/16” star (procured locally at any military uniform shop or online vendors) centered on the suspension ribbon of the medal. The sixth award will be indicated by a silver 5/16” star in lieu of five gold stars.

The following are suggestions for consideration of recommended awards. Nothing herein should be considered to be absolute. The initial, (or in some cases the final), approval may come from the Legion Post where the award is submitted. Higher awards may need to be approved at the National Headquarters level.

**Authority and References:**

American Legion Flag & Emblem Sales, P.O. Box 36460, Indianapolis, IN 46236
http://emblem.legion.org/Medals/products/164/
Call (888) 453-4466 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET
JROTC/ROTC: http://members.floridalegion.org/programs/jrotc
Award Criteria Guidelines

1. JROTC/ROTC Military Excellence Medal and Ribar (Bronze, Silver or Gold):

This award is awarded for outstanding cadet performance, demonstrated qualities of dependability and good character, adherence to military discipline, leadership ability; as well as a fundamental and patriotic understanding of the importance of JROTC / ROTC training.

The selection of the winner is determined by the instructor. The medal is mandated by Congress:

- **Bronze** for High School Level
- **Silver** for 2-year College program
- **Gold** for 4-year College program

ROTC award criteria and levels are dictated by the respective military branch instruction(s).

Note: There are no national governing instructions for the awarding of the JROTC medals. The JROTC medals are awarded at the discretion of the resident senior JROTC instructor.

- Approved for wear by Department of Defense
- Features Legion emblem
- Includes presentation box

- Bronze $18.95/Silver $21.95 /Gold $23.95
- **Item Number:** 717.100M

JROTC/ROTC Military Excellence Ribar

**Item Number:** 717.100R

Bronze/Silver/Gold - $5.95

Devices awarded as part of an organizational award (Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement, American legion Awards, Reserve Officers Association, Military Order of World Wars, etc.) will be worn centered on the ribbon. No more than one device may be worn, even if the recipient has earned the award more than once. If various levels of the award have been earned denoted by different devices, only the highest level award device will be worn (AFROTCI 36-2020).

This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate and Ribar (ribbon).
This is for superior academic performance and/or achieving a Scholastic “A” in JROTC. Each cadet should rank in the upper 10 percent of the (JROTC) academic class, demonstrate outstanding qualities in military leadership, and actively participate in constructive student activities such as student organizations or sports.

The selection of the winner is determined by the instructor. The medal is mandated by Congress:

- **Bronze** for High School Level
- **Silver** for 2-year College program
- **Gold** for 4-year College program

ROTC award criteria and levels are dictated by the respective military branch instruction(s).

Note: There are no national governing instructions for the awarding of the JROTC medals. The JROTC medals are awarded at the discretion of the resident senior JROTC instructor.

- Includes medal and matching Ribar:
- Approved for wear by Department of Defense
- Features Legion emblem
- Includes presentation box
- Bronze: $22.95 / Silver: $24.95 / Gold: $26.95
- **Item Number**: 717.101

ROTC Scholastic Excellence Ribar
**Item Number**: 717.101R
Bronze/Silver/Gold - $5.95

Devices awarded as part of an organizational award (Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement, American legion Awards, Reserve Officers Association, Military Order of World Wars, etc.) will be worn centered on the ribbon. No more than one device may be worn, even if the recipient has earned the award more than once. If various levels of the award have been earned denoted by different devices, only the highest level award device will be worn (AFROTCI 36-2020).

This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate and Ribar (ribbon).
3. Scholarship Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

This award would be normally conferred upon a student who earns a scholarship or is awarded a stipend by a scholarship fund as a result either application to the scholarship fund or successfully winning and essay contest or other contest.

This medal may be awarded at three levels (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for the top student in a significant endeavor or contest that wins the endeavor or contest.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded to the student who is runner-up or second-place than earns a minor scholarship award.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for noteworthy efforts resulting in a minor award for a scholarship or third place in a contest.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.314 - Bronze, Silver or Gold

Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
4. Scholastic Medal (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of the Scholastic Medal is to recognize and motivate students to excel to the highest levels of their scholastic abilities, and recognize the high achievers for scholastic achievements and leadership.

The Scholastic Medal should be awarded for sustained superior performance in academic endeavors. Recommendations may come from either parents, school counselors, teachers or youth leadership, which documented proof of academic excellence.

Based on the fact that there are 3 levels for this award, it could be considered that the 1st 2nd and 3rd choice for a youth (elementary school, middle school, high school) may be considered for either the gold, silver, or bronze medals, respectively for sustained Scholastic excellence.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for the top student in a grade, student of the year for the school, or for extraordinary performance in advanced classes.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded for a high achieving student that achieved runner-up for student of the year, or was ranked 2nd in academic endeavors for their grades.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for the high achieving student that was ranked 3rd for the grade or otherwise would be eligible for an honorable mention in their scholastic endeavors.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.309 - Bronze, Silver or Gold

Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
5. Scholastic Medal (Award for Achievement) (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of the Scholastic medal (award for achievement) is to recognize and motivate students to Excel to the highest level of their scholastic abilities, and to recognize significant achievements attained in primary and secondary school. This award should be considered for achievements not reaching the level of the Scholastic medal (item 4. above).

The Scholastic medal should be awarded for significant and measurable areas of excellence in scholastic endeavors that are remarkable. Recommendations may come from either parents, school counselors, teachers or youth leadership associated with schools.

This award is issued in three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. These three levels may differentiate between different levels of achievement for each of the primary and secondary schools involved.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for the top student in a significant endeavor or contest, or for extraordinary performance in advance classes.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded for a high achieving student not meeting the criteria for the Gold Medal.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for a high achieving student not meeting the criteria for the Silver Medal.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.312- Bronze, Silver or Gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box
6. **Music medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).**

The purpose of music medal is to recognize and motivate students to excel to the highest levels of their abilities in the fine arts of music, and to recognize the high achievers for their musical talents and leadership. While the Scholastic medal recognizes the analytical side of the child’s brain, the music medal should endeavor to recognize the creative side of the brain which is equally important to developing a well-rounded American citizen.

The music medal should be awarded for sustained superior performance in the fine arts of music (Band, Choir or Orchestra) at school or an individual demonstrating a high level of skill in a single or multiple instruments; or performing for the community. Recommendations may come from either parents, school counselors, youth leadership or the music teachers. Documented proof of musical excellence should be provided.

**Gold-medal:** May be awarded for the top student in a musical class, for excellence in mastering several instruments with documented proof of superior performance.

**Silver medal:** May be awarded for the high achiever for a level of excellence not deserving of the gold-medal.

**Bronze medal:** May be awarded for the high achiever to lesser degree than that deserving of the Silver Medal.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.321 - Bronze, Silver or Gold.

Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
7. Essay Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of the essay medal is to recognize and motivate the youth to compete in the higher level of thought process that requires a written essay, which can be demonstrated by and especially well written and thought out essay in the school environment or submission of and/or award in an essay or writing contest.

The essay medal should be awarded to recognize a youth’s achievement in their cognizant and reasoning abilities, and to recognize the superior thought process that is involved in writing a successful essay that convinces the reader that the writer is sincere in their thought process. While this a highly subjective process in regards to determining the award and level of award, care should be taken to take into consideration the age and education level of the youth petitioning for the award; as well as the level thought process required in the essay contest (if applicable).

**Gold medal:** May be awarded for the highest level thought processes as demonstrated by the context and substance of the essay. This could also be awarded as recognition for winning a significant essay contest.

**Silver medal:** May be awarded for a high level of thought process as demonstrated by the context and substance in the essay. This could also be awarded as recognition has runner-up in a significant essay contest.

**Bronze medal:** May be awarded for participation in an essay contest with good thought process as demonstrated in the context and substance of the essay. This could also be awarded as recognition for an individual significant effort in participating in an essay contest not resulting in being selected as a winner.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.317 - Bronze, Silver or Gold

Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
8. Athletic Achievement Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of the athletic achievement medal is to reinforce the value that not only is scholastic wisdom, artistic ability and citizenship excellent attributes, but also maintaining good health is of optimum concern for youth. This award recognizes a youths endeavors to excel in an athletic sport as recognized by longevity, awards and leadership in the field of chosen sport.

This should be awarded to the youth that endeavors or excels in one or more sports. The different level of metals should be conferred with consideration to the level effort required to achieve the level of excellence demonstrated and/or documented by coaches/teachers, parents or youth leaders.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for attaining the highest level in a particular sport demonstrating perseverance and determination as well as good sportsmanship.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded for team leadership, a high level of proficiency in good sportsmanship.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for outstanding participation in a sport and contributing to a team’s success.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.308 - Bronze, Silver or Gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
9. Americanism Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The American Legion’s Service to God and Country program is basic Americanism and is designed to help prevent the spiritual decay of America and to charge our citizens with a spirit of positive Americanism, respect for law, regard for authority and an awareness of our human rights and freedoms. The program’s objective is to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and Nation by preparing young Americans to take up tomorrow’s responsibilities. It is achieved by teaching them moral and spiritual values, renewed interest in our Country’s history, self-discipline, self-reliance, thrift and ideals of loyalty, honesty and physical fitness.

Americanism is the recognition of the truth that the inherent and fundamental rights of man are derived from God, and not from governments, societies, dictators, kings or majorities. This basic principle of Americanism is of Independence, where our immortal forefathers said that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, chief among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The purpose of this medal is to reinforce the core values of Americanism in our children as they mature. The Americanism medal should be awarded for the youths endeavors to be a patriotic and good citizen. This is normally awarded (at the end of the school year) to the most outstanding youth that displays a combination of all or most of the following traits: courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service (depending on age & grade).

The traits of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service will be demonstrated in markedly different ways by youths of different age groups. Care should be taken to understand the age of the youth and demonstrated abilities will differ sharply from a nine year old and a fifteen year old. Courage for a seven year old may be demonstrated by being selected as the school “safety patrol”, reporting hallway infractions; whereas courage for a fifteen year old may be demonstrated by resolving a school bullying issue at the high school.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for sustained demonstrated traits of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service that have been clearly documented or observed by youth leadership or school counselors / teachers. The youth may be admired by peers and respected by staff / faculty and/or adults.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded for demonstrated traits of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service that have been clearly documented or observed by youth leadership or school counselors / teachers not deserving of the gold medal.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for demonstrated traits of courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service that have been clearly documented or observed by youth leadership or school counselors / teachers not deserving of the silver medal.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.301 - Bronze, Silver or Gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.

10. Citizenship medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of this medal is to reinforce the core values that is expected of the good citizen in today’s society as reflected by our forefathers. For the youth of today, the ideals of good citizenship are respect for those in authority (elders, parents, teachers, law enforcement, etc.) and respect for other citizens of all races and creed. Citizenship also is helping others in need, sharing what one can afford to share, help and guide those in need. Respect for country is inherent in the good citizen, yet tolerance for those that immigrate and strive to become good Americans through honest effort and sacrifice should be accepted.

Many elementary schools give citizenship awards to youth that follow rules and receive no disciplinary referrals. This is only one element of good citizenship, which goes hand-in-hand with the ideals listed above, but is an excellent indicator of intended behavior.

This may be awarded at the end of the school year, or to a youth that displays exemplary citizenship over the course of a single extraordinary action or sustained actions that reflect great credit on themselves and the American Legion.

Gold Medal: May be awarded for sustained extraordinary activities or singular actions that reflect great credit on the individual, organization or American Legion.

Silver Medal: May be awarded for extraordinary activities that reflect great credit on the individual, organization or American Legion.

Bronze Medal: May be awarded for activities that reflect great credit on the individual, organization or American Legion.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

Item Number: 717.302 - Bronze, Silver or Gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
11. Marksmanship Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

This medal may be awarded by The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program, an air-gun safety education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition.

The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program is a gun safety education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition. Shooters use the .177 caliber air rifle. Both males and females can participate, through Legion sponsorship; disabled youth are encouraged to join, as competitive shooting is a sport that creates an equal playing field for all competitors. Contact your local Legion post, Sons of The American Legion squadron or Auxiliary unit for information about affiliating as a club or individual.

Junior Shooting Sports is a three-part program that combines the Basic Marksmanship Course, Qualification Awards and Air Rifle Competition into a well-rounded activity.

More information may be found on The American Legion website:

http://www.legion.org/shooting/about

This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number: 717.313 - Bronze, Silver or Gold**
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
12. Marksmanship Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

This medal may be awarded for participation in an organized competitive sport shooting event(s) on a sanctioned sport shooting range only under responsible adult supervision. This medal may also be awarded for participation in organized competitive events, such as a JROTC/ROTC weapon qualification program or a junior law enforcement weapon qualification program; or demonstrated proficiency with a handgun or rifle upon completion of a firearm safety course with a qualification course of fire. All courses of fire must have minimum qualification criteria, for the bronze level of award, and/or mid to high level distinct measurable qualification criteria for higher levels of this award.

Recommendations/request for this award must have documented certifications of qualification or achievement at the appropriate level for the request of the award. All requests based on a firearm safety course qualification must have a state or nationally certified instructor administering the course on a state or nationally sanctioned weapon range. A sanctioned range is one that is operated by a licensed business with insurance that meets or exceeds the standard set by the National Rifle Association (NRA), or a range operated by Federal / State / Local Law Enforcement or the U.S. Military.

Gold Medal: May be awarded to the youth that qualifies at the highest (expert) level or achieves the winning level (first place) of the associated handgun or rifle competition.

Silver Medal: May be awarded to the youth that qualifies at the mid-level (sharpshooter) or achieves a runners up position (second-place) of the associated handgun or rifle competition.

Bronze Medal: May be awarded to the youth that qualifies at the minimum level (marksman) or achieves the third place of the associated handgun or rifle competition. This may also be awarded to the youth that completes a firearms safety course and achieves the minimum qualifying course of fire on a sanctioned range under responsible adult instruction and supervision. Firearm safety courses that do not have a minimum qualifying course of fire will not be considered.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

Item Number: 717.307- Bronze, Silver or Gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
13. Medal of Merit: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

The purpose of this medal is to recognize meritorious achievement in various fields of endeavor exemplifying the ideals in which The American Legion holds in high esteem: courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service. This may be conferred for an extraordinary endeavor or sustained superior performance in a field resulting in great credit to The American Legion.

This award must be approved by the American Legion headquarters.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded for exceptionally meritorious achievement or sustained outstanding achievement in fields of endeavor that reflect the ideals of The American Legion in an honorable light.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded for meritorious achievement or sustained outstanding achievement in fields of endeavor that reflect the ideals of The American Legion and an honorable light.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded for outstanding achievement in fields of endeavor with that reflect the ideals of The American Legion in an honorable light.

The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be initially determined at the Post level. This metal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number: 717.304 - Bronze, Silver or Gold**
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
14. **Heroism Medal: (Bronze, Silver or Gold).**

The Heroism Medal recognizes an individual whom distinguishes him or herself by extraordinary heroism performed a rescue or attempted rescue at the risk of his or her own life, and demonstrates extreme and heroic daring.

Individuals must have performed a worthwhile act or an act that was considered worthwhile at the time. Needless and foolish risking of life, or tempting of fate is not considered worthwhile.

The act must have been performed voluntarily. This requirement should not be applied so strictly that a person would be excluded from consideration, who in carrying out orders, does more on his/her own volition than could ordinarily be expected under the circumstances. Did the individual leave a place of comparative safety to perform the act without direct orders or without being forced into the more dangerous situation by circumstances over which the individual had no control? Had the individual not performed the action cited, would there be cause for censure or blame? A person who failed to perform the duties that are expected of one of his/her rank and experience and for which he/she had been trained might be considered a candidate for censure rather than praise.

The act performed by the individual must not have been motivated by a desire for self-preservation.

Satisfactory evidence of the heroic services performed, in the form of affidavits made by eyewitnesses of good repute and standing, testifying of their own knowledge. The opinion of witnesses that the person for whom an award is sought imperiled his or her own life or made extraordinary efforts is not sufficient. The affidavits must set forth, in detail, all facts and occurrences, clearly showing in what manner and to what extent life was risked or extraordinary efforts were made so the Headquarters may judge the degree of merit involved. The affidavits shall be made before an officer duly authorized to administer oaths.

**Gold Medal:** May be awarded to an individual who is performed a rescue or attempted rescue at the risk of his or her own life, and demonstrates extreme and heroic daring.

**Silver Medal:** May be awarded to an individual who performed a rescue or attempted rescue where the circumstances do not sufficiently distinguish the individual to deserve the medal of gold, but demonstrate such extraordinary effort as to merit recognition.

**Bronze Medal:** May be awarded to an individual who performed a rescue or attempted rescue where the circumstances do not sufficiently distinguish the individual to deserve the medal of silver, but demonstrate such extraordinary effort as to merit recognition.

The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level, but the award may be up or down-graded at the National Headquarters level. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.316 - Bronze, Silver or Gold

Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box.
15. Grateful appreciation medal

The purpose of this award is to recognize honorable service to the United States of America in a foreign nation, acknowledging the hardships and challenges inherently involved with working overseas, in appreciation of a grateful nation.

Active duty military, reserve units, National Guard service personnel returning from deployment overseas as well as Department of Defense civilians and contractors returning from deployment overseas are eligible for this award. Veterans and deceased veterans having previously served overseas may be considered. Only honorable service will be considered.

Evidence of deployment in a foreign nation may be required.

- Available in gold only

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.300 (Gold Only)
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box

16. General medal (Bronze, Silver or Gold).

This award should be considered when meritorious achievement does not meet the requirements for any other award, but is noteworthy nonetheless. This award shall be considered on a case-by-case basis.

This medal may be awarded at the Post level. The level of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may be determined at the Post level. Recommendations may be from American Legion members, school staff, parents or youth organizations. This medal should be awarded with the appropriate certificate.

**Item Number:** 717.310 - Available in bronze, silver, and gold
Furnished with regulation ribbon, pin back with safety catch, and presentation box