

The American Legion Firefighter of the Year Award

Eligibility Criteria

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be a living, certified, active, full-time, paid or volunteer Firefighter. This includes EMT's or those serving in some other capacity in the department.
- Be assigned to, or fully recognized by, Municipal, County, District, State or Federal Fire Department.
- Does not need to be a veteran or member of The American Legion.
- Reside and be assigned or attached for duty in Florida.

Judging Criteria

Judges will be looking for a Firefighter who:

- is well-rounded.
- has exceeded, above and beyond, the duty requirements of his/her position.
- exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication.
- demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service in both on-duty and off-duty activities.
- proven his/her personal dedication to societal security and protection.

Judging will be based on the following criteria, and maximum percentage points will be allocated as follows:

Community Service	35 points
Professional Career.....	40 points
Heroism.....	20 points
Letters of recognition, news clippings, and other substantiating documentation.....	5 points

Application Criteria

1. Cover Page/Application Form.
2. Official 5"x7" photograph of the nominee.
3. No more than 18 one sided 8 ½" x 11" pages of documentation.
 - a. Service Narrative – No more than 6 one sided pages which must include:
 - i. A letter of recommendation from his/her commanding officer or supervisor.
 - ii. A letter of recommendation by a Post officer.
 - iii. Brief, yet complete, description of a specific act of heroism, meritorious performance or community service; Act(s) performed over and above the call of duty during the last few years; Act(s) demonstrating a distinct pattern of community service above and beyond assigned duty requirements.
 - b. Supporting Documentation – No more than 12 one sided pages which must include:
 - i. A copy of State or Federal certification as a Firefighter.
 - ii. Copies of pertinent training and education certificates, press articles, citations and letters that support the narrative, letters and/or newspaper clippings from: the officer's chain of command, city, county, state authorities, American Legion officials, citizens or civic groups as further evidence of community service, heroic and meritorious performance of duty by the nominee.

Mail original of all paperwork, **NO LATER THAN April 15, 2026** to:

Programs Director Bekki Boarman
P.O. Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854
programs@floridalegion.org

Certificates of Commendation are available, free of charge, from Department Headquarters. To order call 800.393.3378x235

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION COVER SHEET

Name _____ Sex _____

Work Address _____

City/ST/Zip _____

Work Phone number (_____) _____ - _____ Age _____

Marital Status _____ Spouse Name _____

Job Title _____ Yrs. of service _____

Agency name _____

Agency Director/Title _____

Nominee's Supervisor/Title _____

Agency Address _____

City/ST/Zip _____

Phone number (_____) _____ - _____

Post Submitting Nomination (number/location) _____

Post Law and Order Chairman _____

Address _____

City/ST/Zip _____

Phone number (_____) _____ - _____

Post Commander _____

Post Adjutant _____

DEADLINE: April 15, 2026