



VFW

Cadet of the Year

Award Nomination Form



The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Virginia is honored to award special recognition for outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership for Junior ROTC Cadets, Naval Sea Cadets and Civil Air Patrol Cadets. This award seeks to recognize a remarkable cadet who will become a leader in their community and serve their country.

Eligibility: Any 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student that is currently enrolled as a Cadet actively engaged in a JROTC program, a Naval Sea Cadet program, or a Civil Air Patrol program, and one who meets the criteria for the award.

WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED?

The following documentation should be submitted for a nomination packet:

- **Photograph of the Cadet** — must be attached to this form. The Cadet must appear in correct, complete uniform for their current rank. Recommended size 3" x 5".
- **School Participation Record** — a single page, one-sided resume of the candidate's school activities indicating academic achievements, offices held, honors received and significant participation in other activities.
 - Additional criteria:
 - Attainment of a grade of "B" in JROTC with an overall average of "C" in all subjects for the previous semester. Must not have a failing grade in any subject for the current academic year.
 - Must be active in at least one other student extracurricular activity or club: i.e., music, athletics, student government, junior achievement, etc.
- **Cadet Record** — maximum of three pages, one side only, listing of all program participation over the Cadet's tenure in the organization - years of participation, awards/commendations, and achievements. Identify leadership positions held at all levels, and participation in extended Cadet activities.
 - Additional criteria:
 - Positive attitude toward the Cadet program.

- Outstanding military bearing and conduct both in and out of uniform.
 - Patriotism (commander or member of color guard, drill team with or without arms, flag protocol instruction team, and actively promote Americanism). Shows devotion to school, community, America. An individual who practices service through repeated acts of support.
 - Courtesy (dependability, punctuality, human relations, respect, cooperation).
 - Growth potential (capable of assuming high leadership responsibilities in JROTC Unit with additional training and experience).
 - Demonstrated leadership potential, military bearing, and scholastic achievement.
 - Community Service Record — a single page, one-sided listing of participation in community and religious service organizations (excluding Cadet programs and school), noting leadership positions held and any recognition received.
- **Letters of Recommendation** — Submit three letters, no more than two pages in length from:
 - A Cadet Program Leader/Instructor.
 - A community member.
 - A teacher/faculty member (if homeschooled, a parent letter is allowed).
 - In addition, you may include one or two additional letters, no more than two pages in length, from local community members who have special knowledge of the candidate's abilities/accomplishments.
 - **Completed Entry Form** – submitted to a local VFW Post. Local Posts can be identified by zip code at vfw.org/FindaPost.
 - **Must not have been a previous recipient of the award**

VFW Cadet of the Year Entry Form: (**Deadline to Post: 12 Feb 2027**)

Cadets Name: Rank, First, MI, Last

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone:

Email:

School or Cadet Program:

Program Commander: Rank, Name, Phone

To Be completed by Nominator

Nominator Name: First, Last

Phone:

Email:

Relationship to Cadet

Why do you feel this person deserves this award?
(You may use space below or attach separately)

To Be Completed by the VFW Post:

I certify that this Cadet has an authorized entry in our VFW Post level Cadet of the Year Competition.

Post Commander/Chairperson Signature

Post#

Post Address

City, State, Zip

VFW Post Email

No. of participants

No. of winners

To Be Completed by the VFW District:

I certify that the Cadet named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Cadet of the Year District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department.

District Chairperson Signature

Dist. #

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairperson:

I certify that the Cadet named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Cadet of the Year Department Competition.

Department Chairperson Signature

Daytime Phone

Email

The winner has been/will be (circle one) notified that they are the first-place Department winner on _____.

Submitted to Department Adjutant on _____

