



2024-2025 National Security Program Engagement Plan

Karen Runk, Department Chairman / 608-415-2001 ◆ kmrunk4@gmail.com

PURPOSE

The National Security Program is to promote a strong national defense.

DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES

- April 1st: Submit National Security Unit narrative reports to the Department of Wisconsin. Narrative reports will be copied & distributed to the department chairman.
- June 1st: To be considered for a national award, the unit must submit their entry on-line through the ALA National Website National Security Program Awards (legion-aux.org).
- June 1st: Units submit Salute to Service Member nominations on-line through the ALA National Website Salute to Servicemembers Award Form (legion-aux.org).
- As a courtesy, please inform your department chairman of these submissions to National for Unit and/or Service Member recognitions.

GET INVOLVED

- Raise awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel.
- The ALA National Security program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military service members and their families.
- Support all military families by working with their command group and family readiness groups.
- Support and enhance Legion Family and partner initiatives that strive to improve the Quality of Life (QoL) of our servicemembers and their families.
- Collaborate with other military service organizations such as Operation Homefront; USO Wisconsin; TAPS; MFAN; Blue Star Mothers; Ship-Thrifty and so many more.
- Purple Up for Military Children
- Support families whose service members made the ultimate sacrifice.
- Donate to the A.L.F. (American Legion Family) Dog Program.
- Promote participation in blood drives, CPR training, and emergency preparedness.
- Learn more about the UW Madison MIA Recovery & Identification Project by following this link https://mia.biotech.wisc.edu/
- Or follow the Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/UWMissingInAction?mibextid=LQQI4d

Resources:

- For suggestions on how to implement this program, please contact the Department Chairman listed at the beginning of this Program Engagement Plan.
- Troop Welcome Home/Send-Off Events Welcome Troops Home (legion-aux.org)
- Troop Care Packages <u>Troop Care Packages (legion-aux.org)</u>
- Ensure Quality of life for servicemembers https://www.legion.org/washingtonconference/258294/ensuring-quality-life-servicemembers.
- Taking care of our people https://www.defense.gov/Spotlights/Taking-Care-of-Our-People.
- Military OneSource https://www.militaryonesource.mil/.
- National POW/MIA Recognition Day POWMIA (legion-aux.org)
- POW/MIA or Missing Man Table https://member.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/National-Security/Missing-Man-Table.
- Blue Star Banners Blue Star Banners (legion-aux.org)
- Emergency Preparedness Community Emergency Response Team (legion-aux.org)
- ALA Wisconsin National Security Facebook Group ALA National Security Dept of Wisconsin
- ALA's National Security Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/915563745139663/



SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS

AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring activeduty women to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the National Guard/Reserve.

One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

Nomination Eligibility

• A servicemember currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Nomination Requirements:

- The nominating person submits a narrative discussing the reason for the nomination
- The servicemember writes a narrative (750 words or less) and creates a video (3 minutes or less) that shows them discussing their service both in and out of uniform.
- The servicemember must be willing to be a guest of the Auxiliary and speak to the general assembly of the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.
- Endorsement from a member of their command group must be included.
- The nominating form, along with all supporting documentation, must be completed and submitted by June 1, 2025.

YouTube Checklist for Servicemember

Criteria for video submission; please be sure that your video contains:

- does not contain any copyrighted music, video, images, or text (not legally owned)
- is not set to "private;" your video must be public.
- is 3 minutes or less in length

Online Application can be accessed: www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicemembers-Award-Form Name of person making this nomination, if not the nominee: First Name Last Name Email of person making this nomination, if not the nominee: Phone Number of person making this nomination, if not the nominee: Unit number and department of nominating ALA unit * Servicemember's Name: * First Name Last Name Servicemember's Email: * Servicemember's Phone Number: * Servicemember's Branch of Service: * U.S. Coast Guard U.S. Air Force U.S. Army U.S. Navy U.S. Marines U.S. Space Force V.S. Mational Guard/Reserve Servicemember's Rank/Pay Grade: * Is the servicemember able to attend ALA National Convention? YES NO Is the servicemember comfortable with public speaking? YES NO Written narrative of nomination. * No File Chosen **Choose File** Remove File Written narrative from servicemember. * No File Chosen **Choose File** Remove File Video: Copy and paste URL of video link. * Endorsement from a member of their command group. Please attach a separate document. * No File Chosen Choose File Remove File

Submit Form