

2017-2018 JROTC Enhanced Program – MFR # 2 – Enhanced Program Guidance

Tennessee Society Enhanced Program deadline:

The **Chapter Nomination (Enhanced Program) OC Essay Package must reach me NLT Wednesday 1 March 2018**. State Judging will take place 3 and 4 March to allow for the winner to be contacted and travel arrangements to be made for attendance at the 23-24 March 2018 TNSSAR Annual Meeting in Franklin, TN. It is recommended that you send me your OC Winner Package early so that, if needed, corrections or adjustments could be made to the package before the deadline. *Chapters are requested to send me a copy of the OC Package by e-mail (Word or PDF)*. As a backup, a complete OC Package should be mailed to me.

I have attached the Enhanced JROTC Nomination Form to my distribution. **Do not use the Consolidated Youth Awards Form that is linked on the National site.** Use the Enhanced JROTC Form I have provided. A link to the form on the Connecticut State SAR website is provided below. This active PDF, which can be saved once filled in, **should be provided to the JROTC Senior Instructor** so they can provide you with the completed form in electronic form. A copy has been included with this document.

Note the new award amounts!

DO NOT SEND REGISTERED MAIL – if you want a receipt for mailed items include a self addressed envelope or use USPS Priority Mail which includes tracking in its standard fee.

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Below are the guidance and rules as published by the National Program. All National rules MUST be met for a package to judged at the TNSSAR State program judging. Take special note of those elements of the package that MUST be signed by the student's principal (NOT a representative of the principal.)

Also take special note of the two elements:

- *Strong Endorsements (Recommendations) by Principal and SMI are critical*
- *Write up accomplishments like one was **justifying** a military medal, not the words for the citation under "Lessons Learned" below in the National guidance. These are elements that have significant weight in the National Committee Judging.*

The National awards have changed for the 2017-2018 year back to the 2015-2016 level.

National Award levels for 2017-2017 are:

1st Place Winner - \$4,000 plus up to \$1,500 in documented expenses related to attending Congress in Houston.

2nd Place Winner- \$1,500

3rd Place Winner - \$1,000

2017-2018 JROTC Enhanced Program Guidance

SAR Enhanced JROTC Program to select the OC (Outstanding Cadet) at chapter, state, and national level

What's New this year! 1st Place award is now \$2,500; 2nd place is \$1,000 and 3rd place is \$500
The current version can be found at the following link on the ConnecticutSAR.org web site
[https://www.ConnecticutSAR.org/pdf/JROTC Nomination Form 2016 2017.pdf](https://www.ConnecticutSAR.org/pdf/JROTC%20Nomination%20Form%202016%202017.pdf) You must save the Nomination Form to your computer (recommend that you save to your Desk Top.) Data entered onto this form may be saved, modified, and transmitted by e-mail. Drop down instructions are provided for each space (see directions at the top of Nomination Form). This form should be completed by the SMI (Senior Military Instructor) with input provided by the cadet being nominated. The form addresses the nomination requirements and the length of the essay. A copy of the Nomination form has also been attached to this email.

The following criterion applies to a cadet nominated by his/her JROTC Unit for Outstanding Cadet:

JROTC Enhanced Program

- +Cadet must be enrolled in JROTC Program;
- +3rd year of a 4 year Program or 2nd year of a 3 year Program (**cadet must be a junior**);
- +Top 10% of JROTC Class;
- +Top 25% of his/her Class.

The JROTC Enhanced Program requires that a cadet write an original 500-700 word Essay in addition to meeting the above listed criteria. The original Essay Topic as found on the Nomination Form is **“How JROTC has prepared me to be a better citizen of the United States of America.”**
A Nomination Form and Recommendations (Endorsements) from the **SMI** and the school **Principal** are also required. The Principal's Endorsement must also verify the **Class Standing** and **GPA** of the cadet. A transcript may be provided, but ***GPA verification by the Principal in his/her recommendation is still required.***

Each JROTC Unit may nominate one cadet to represent the Unit in the Chapter competition. The Chapter selects one cadet to represent them in the State Society competition. For a State Society without chapters, the OC selected will be your representative at the national competition. There is a special Chapter OC Medal (bronze medallion with neck ribbon) for the Enhanced Program Winner, available at the NSSAR Store. The OC Medal Package (bronze medallion on neck ribbon, ribbon with gold frame and a bronze star, certificate) costs \$45.00. Chapters are encouraged to present the Chapter OC Medal at their regular chapter meeting and then, present it again, at the JROTC Unit's Awards Ceremony or Awards Banquet. Chapters may offer a monetary award to their winner, and they may also present a Certificate of Appreciation to each cadet nominated for the chapter contest. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate to award the Chapter Runner-up with the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Ribbon (listed as the Sea Cadet Ribbon) (both available at the NSSAR Store). The NSSAR Store carries an Outstanding Citizenship Pin with certificate that could be awarded to all participants.

There is a special State OC Medal Package (silver medallion on neck ribbon, ribbon with gold frame and a silver star, certificate) that costs \$45.00. The State Society OC Medal could likewise be presented at the State Society Awards Ceremony and then presented again at the Unit's Awards Ceremony or Banquet. (For State Societies without chapters, you would award this Medal Package.) State Societies may also offer a monetary award to their Winner and Runner-up.

SAR Enhanced JROTC Program to select the OC (Outstanding Cadet) - Additional note:

The following special notes are presented as advice toward a winning candidate package:

*The Nominating Form clearly states that **additional pages may be attached**, as required; however, a cadet will not be selected because of volume or weight. Please do not attach extraneous computer print outs that show every activity the cadet has completed.

*Lessons Learned:

- SMI should complete Nomination Form with input from cadet – list sponsor, chapter/state society
- All lines of Nomination Form should have an entry
- Be specific, list what the cadet has done (general comments do not assist your cadet)
- List the facts and accomplishments instead of flowery adjectives
- List awards – example: Varsity Letter Football, All District Tennis, All State Chorus, VFW Medal
- Ensure the cadet is not a Senior
- Ensure the cadet is in the 3rd year of 4 year program or 2nd year of 3 year program
- Ensure the cadet is in the Top 25% of his or her class (verified by Principal)

These next three are central to winning packages!

- Strong Endorsements (Recommendations) by Principal and SMI are critical
- SMI should write up accomplishments like one was **justifying** a military medal or award, not the words for the citation
- Essays are not proctored, there is no excuse **for spelling or grammar errors** (please proof)
- Only complete OC Packages will be forwarded to Judges