

## AMSUS Annual Awards Program

AMSUS - The Society of Federal Health Professionals honors the contributions of outstanding federal healthcare professionals each year through the Awards Program.

The awards are presented during the Association's Annual Continuing Education Meeting at its Annual Dinner. Each recipient will be presented their award personally by the leadership of their agency and the AMSUS Executive Director.

Eighteen of the awards are competitive awards. We strongly encourage nominations of deserving individuals for these awards. AMSUS Awards Committee members, comprised of representatives of the federal health agencies, select a portion of the competitive award recipients. Three awardees are selected by the AMSUS Board of Directors. The remaining awards are selected by subcommittees of specific disciplines.

Two awards are for written compositions or essays. AMSUS takes great pride in acknowledging scholarly contributions to current military medicine research or practice and recognizing the rich historical aspects of military medicine and its contributors.

### Nomination Process

The nomination process takes place electronically on the AMSUS website. Nominations will be accepted 30 April-30 June. The deadline for nominations and essay submissions is 30 June.

In addition to the Award recommendation, Individual award nominations require a biography/resume/CV (no more than 3 pages in length) and letter of recommendation from the individual's supervisor, with commanding officer approval, be uploaded. Essay awards are submitted directly by the author through the AMSUS website. Individuals selected to receive awards will be notified by late-September.

### Executive Director's General Guidance for Award Nominations:

1. **NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE BRIEF.** Descriptions of activities or accomplishments which do not bear on the award should not be included because they can distract reviewers from the central accomplishments.
2. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS SHOULD BE TIMELY.** Unless otherwise stated, AMSUS awards are designed to recognize accomplishments within the past 12 months or so, rather than lifetime or career.
3. **NOMINATION SHOULD BE EASY TO READ,** best accomplished by using **SIMPLE DECLARATIVE SENTENCES.**
4. **BULLETIZING MAJOR POINTS** helps break up the clutter and increases legibility.
5. **SIGNIFICANCE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IMPACT/RESULTS ON ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE OR VALUE ADDED TO PATIENTS, OR OTHER CONSUMERS** should be highlighted.
6. **DON'T MAKE IT A DAUNTING TASK** – focus on the important points and let other details go.

**FINALLY, GOOD NOMINATIONS WRITE THEMSELVES.** If you are not certain an individual really is worthy of the award, sit down, describe the accomplishments, list the importance of those actions, and what you have written will speak for itself.

## Executive Advisory Council Awards

The Rising Star Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Force Health Protection Team Award are the AMSUS Premiere Awards. Created in 2009, the nomination process originates with the Executive Advisory Council.

Nominations are from the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, each of the four Uniformed Services Surgeons General, the Director of the Defense Health Agency, and the President of the Uniformed Services University. We also include the Joint Staff Surgeon in the group, resulting in the maximum number of nomination packages for each of the three awards to be nine (9). Reserve and National Guard nominations for these three awards will be submitted through their service's Surgeon General.

Online nominations for these three awards will then be forwarded to the appropriate Executive Advisory Council member for their selection of the best candidate from their constituency.

**Selection:** The selection of these award recipients will rest with the Awards Committee Chair with concurrence of the AMSUS Board of Directors.

***Rising Star Award*** - This award is given to an individual who, early in their career, has demonstrated success in federal healthcare delivery or management which has placed them on an ascending path to an executive leadership role.

**Eligibility:** O-5, E-7, or civilian equivalent and below.

**Criteria:** The individual must have demonstrated excellence and achievement in their initial assignments as well as have one to five years' healthcare leadership experience. Nominees must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Outstanding work and professional activities in healthcare or administration
- Development of notable innovations on the job
- Active participation in healthcare organization, association, and leadership programs
- Promotes the value of healthcare professionals

***Lifetime Achievement Award*** - This award is intended to mark a distinguished career of consistent excellence and is given to honor an individual who has made significant fundamental contributions to federal healthcare, either through a single transcendent act or a body of work. These contributions, whether they have been in leadership, clinical achievement, or mentorship must have had a lasting impact on federal healthcare and demonstrated a lifetime commitment to advancing healthcare quality and efficacy.

**Eligibility:** O-6, E-8, or civilian equivalent and above.

**Criteria:** Candidates for this award are living role models in the fields of healthcare delivery and administration. Their life-long careers in development, invention and innovation in the healthcare field have had a significant impact on society. These individuals have the potential to be role models and are inspirational to others. The award is open to any person who, through his or her life's endeavors, has

demonstrated significant and lasting contributions toward better health outcomes in federal medicine. The award is targeted toward demonstrated value delivered in health outcomes, rather than purely academic achievement. Therefore, nominees will be expected to have demonstrated tangible and persistent contributions that led toward improved health outcomes in an identifiable group of individuals. The recipient of this award must have had a significant career span. Contributions should be recognized at local, national and international levels.

***Force Health Protection Team Award*** - This award recognizes an organization or team which has made significant contributions to assure that the men and women of the armed services and/or veterans are provided health services to assure mission readiness or optimal health functionality at all times. The concept of force health protection goes beyond the military and includes contributions that provide force health protection of a nation threatened by disease, a natural disaster or acts of terrorism or war.

**Eligibility:** This award can be provided to a healthcare team (e.g. trauma center, etc.) or organization for their contributions to assuring readiness.

**Criteria:** The nominated teams must have made a substantial contribution to maintain healthcare readiness during the past year in activities that contribute to a healthy and fit force:

- Disease prevention
- Curative and/or restorative therapies
- Health promotion
- Operations in direct support of deployed forces
- Humanitarian & Disaster Relief Operations
- Health Global Operations

### **Individual Professional Awards**

Individual awards are designed to recognize recent accomplishments (past year or so) or past accomplishments whose impact has been recently felt.

Nominees may be current AMSUS members or individual who are currently, or have at any time been, associated with a federal health agency or the Department of Veterans Affairs or individuals of the military medical services of other nations.

Nominators may be anyone.

### **Individual Award Judgement Criteria**

**The following individual awards will be judged by the criteria:**

1. Significant accomplishment(s) in the last year or so warranting AMSUS recognition.
2. Evidence that those accomplishments had a meaningful impact on their mission or organization.

### **Award Categories**

***Physician Award*** - This award recognizes the accomplishments of a federal physician who has made outstanding contributions as a clinician, researcher, educator, or healthcare manager.

**Eligibility:** Nominations are open to any federal physician of one of the five medical services.

***Dentist Award*** - This award recognizes the accomplishments of a federal dentist who has made outstanding contributions as a clinician, researcher, educator, or healthcare manager.

**Eligibility:** Nominations are open to any federal dentist of one of the five health agencies.

***Nursing Award*** - This award recognizes the accomplishments of a federal nurse who has made outstanding contributions as a clinician, researcher, educator, or healthcare manager.

**Eligibility:** Nominations are open to any federal nurse of one of the five health agencies.

***Andrew Craige Allied Health Professional Award*** - This award recognizes the leadership role of federal allied healthcare professionals in the transformation of their practice(s) by working closely with other healthcare providers to optimize treatment in a safe, efficacious and cost-effective manner. The award is intended to recognize sustained excellence in the provision of allied healthcare; and to grant recognition and promote awareness of federal allied healthcare practitioners who distinguish themselves in the provision of care.

**Eligibility:** Licensed healthcare provider in an allied health profession. Practitioners include, but are not limited to, pharmacists, physical, occupational and recreational therapists, social workers, clinical psychologists, optometrists, physician assistants, dietitians, veterinary practitioners, etc.

***William Gorgas Preventive Medicine Award*** - The award is given to an individual for distinguished work in preventive medicine, clinical application, education or research.

**Eligibility:** Nominations are open to any health professional of the five health agencies.

***Management and Administration Award*** - This award is presented to an individual who has made conspicuously outstanding contributions to federal healthcare or has demonstrated superior leadership or executive management ability.

**Eligibility:** An individual healthcare leader, administrator or manager in healthcare management or logistics in the five health agencies.

***Lewis L. Seaman Enlisted Award for Outstanding Operational Support  
Senior Enlisted (E-7 through E-9) & Junior Enlisted (E-5 - E-6)***

Originally established by the Association in 1900, this award was named after the late Major Lewis Livingston Seaman, a Surgeon of the First U.S. Volunteers, Spanish American War. This award recognizes one each, a junior, and senior enlisted medical healthcare professional who has made a significant impact in the areas of patient care, clinical support or healthcare management, and to their service's medical mission.

**Eligibility:** These awards are presented to an Active Duty, Reserve or Guard enlisted professional of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Coast Guard who has exhibited outstanding accomplishments in advancing the healthcare mission of their service through demonstrated compassionate and quality patient care and service, clinical support or healthcare management.

### **Functional Mission Awards (Team or Individual)**

**Eligibility:** Nominations are open to any member(s) of the appropriate functional area within federal medicine.

**Criteria:**

- Significant accomplishment(s) warranting AMSUS recognition
- Evidence that those accomplishments had a meaningful impact on their mission or organization

### **Functional Mission Award Judgement Criteria**

**The following individual awards will be judged by the criteria:**

1. Significant accomplishment(s) in the last year or so warranting AMSUS recognition.
2. Evidence that those accomplishments had a meaningful impact on their mission or organization.

### **Award Categories**

***Operational Medicine Award*** - recognizes a team or individual that has provided outstanding healthcare service or support in an operational and/or austere environment.

***Rehabilitation Award*** - recognizes a team or individual that has provided outstanding rehabilitative service or treatment to active duty, transitioning personnel, or veterans in an inpatient or outpatient setting.

***Humanitarian Assistance Award*** - Recognizes a team or individual that has made meritorious, direct out of the ordinary participation in a significant act or operation of a humanitarian nature.

***Research & Development Award*** - Recognizes a team or individual that has made a significant discovery or contribution in federal health research and development.

***Training and Education Award*** - Recognizes a team or individual that has played a major role in healthcare education and training and has positively impacted mission accomplishment.

***Medical Logistics Award*** - Recognizes a team or individual that has made significant contributions in medical acquisition or logistics and has positively impacted mission accomplishment.

***Information Technology Award*** - Recognizes a team or individual that has made significant contributions in Information and Technology and has positively impacted mission accomplishments.

## Essay Awards

***Military Medicine Article of the Year Award*** - The Military Medicine Article of the Year Award is given to the lead author of an article published in the official AMSUS journal, *Military Medicine*, during the previous calendar year.

No nominations are accepted for this award. All articles appearing in *Military Medicine* in the previous calendar year are automatically considered. The AMSUS Editorial Board will review all articles and recommend the top candidate articles to the Editor for final consideration. Principal criteria used by the members of the Editorial Board and the Editor in judging the published manuscripts from the preceding year are that the article is hypothesis driven and based upon original research. If the author is not a current AMSUS member, eligibility for membership must be documented.

***History of Military Medicine Essay Award*** - Essay should address some aspect of the history/evolution of military medicine. Individuals from all healthcare areas are encouraged to submit essays.

- It is not limited to United States Armed Forces military medicine.
- Authors name must not appear within the essay.
- Submissions should include appropriate reference citations.
- Articles are limited to 2,500 words of text. When counting the word total; do not include the abstract, references, or illustrative materials. References, tables, and figures should be sufficient in number to reasonably support the content of the essay.
- Please use the Council of Science Editors (CSE) Citation-Sequence system for your references.