

AMSUS 2022/2023 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 Banquet. Each recipient will be presented their award personally by the leadership of their agency and the AMSUS Executive Director. We strongly encourage nominations of deserving individuals for these awards.

AMSUS members participate as volunteer reviewers and independently score each completed submission. Scores are tabulated, and the awardee is determined by the highest score.

Nomination Process

Nominations will be accepted **5 July – 15 October 2022**. The deadline will not be extended. All nominations must be submitted in the online submission portal.

In addition to the required information found within the portal for each award category, nominations require a biography/resume/CV (no more than 3 pages in length) and letter of recommendation from the individual's organization/agency be uploaded. Individuals selected to receive awards will be notified in December 2022.

For more detailed guidance on how to submit a nomination, please review the FAQ document posted on the website.

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. Nominations are limited to 3,000 characters as outlined in the submission portal.
2. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS SHOULD BE TIMELY.** Unless otherwise stated, AMSUS awards are designed to recognize accomplishments within the past 12-18 months or so, rather than lifetime or career.
3. **NOMINATION SHOULD BE EASY TO READ, best accomplished by using SIMPLE DECLARATIVE SENTENCES. Avoid using acronyms that might be agency specific and unknown to reviewers who will score the submission.**
4. **DO NOT** use a nominee's performance report as the nomination tool.
5. **BULLETIZING MAJOR POINTS** helps break up the clutter and increases legibility.
6. **SIGNIFICANCE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IMPACT/RESULTS ON ORGANIZATION/ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE OR VALUE ADDED TO PATIENTS, OR OTHER CONSUMERS** should be highlighted.
7. **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, Innovator and Lifetime Achievement are the AMSUS Premier Awards. The [nomination process originates with the Executive Advisory Council](#).

Online nominations for these three awards are forwarded to the appropriate Executive Advisory Council member for their selection of the best candidate from their constituency. Members of the Executive Advisory Council involved in selecting their top candidate for the three awards are Executive in Charge of the Veterans Health Administration, US Surgeon General, each of the three Service's Surgeons General, the Director of the Defense Health Agency, Chief Medical Officer Department of Homeland Security, and the President of the Uniformed Services University. We also include the Joint Staff Surgeon in the group, resulting in the maximum number of nominations 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.

Selection: The selection of these award recipients' rests 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 or VA healthcare delivery or management which has placed them on an ascending path to an executive leadership role.

Eligibility: O-5, E-7, GS-14 and below.

Criteria: The individual has demonstrated excellence and achievement in their initial assignments as well as 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

Innovator Award - This award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to military or federal medicine by developing and/or implementing novel approaches to overcome complex and persistent challenge(s) in health care delivery and/or readiness. It is through innovation that organizations are able to adapt to the changing requirements and without the "innovator" organizations fail to take advantage of opportunities.

Eligibility: O-6, E-9, GS-15 or below.

Criteria:

1. Significant accomplishment(s) in the last 12-18 months warranting AMSUS recognition.
2. Evidence that those accomplishments had a meaningful impact on their mission or organization.

Lifetime Achievement Award - This award marks 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 (GS15), E-8 or civilian equivalent and above.

Criteria: Candidates for this award are living role models and inspirational to others 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. 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 are expected to have demonstrated tangible and persistent contributions that led toward improved health outcomes in an identifiable group of individuals. A significant career span is required for this award recipient. Contributions should be recognized at local, national, and international levels.

Individual Professional Awards

Individual awards are designed to recognize recent accomplishments (past 12-18 months) 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 involved in federal medicine. Self-nominations are not allowed.

Nominations are open to any federal healthcare worker from the Army, Navy, Air Force, USPHS, Veterans Affairs, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services and the Uniformed Services University.

Individual Award Judgement Criteria

The following individual awards will be judged by the criteria:

1. Significant accomplishment(s) in the last 12-18 months warranting AMSUS recognition.
2. Evidence 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 executive.

Eligibility: Nominations are open to any federal, (military, VA or USPHS) physician.

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

Eligibility: Nominations are open to any federal, (military, VA or USPHS) dentist.

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

Eligibility: Nominations are open to any federal (military, VA or USPHS) nurse.

Andrew Craige Allied Health Professional Award - This award recognizes the leadership role of federal allied healthcare professionals. The award is intended to recognize sustained excellence in the provision of allied healthcare, and to grant recognition and to promote awareness of federal allied healthcare practitioners who distinguish themselves in the provision of care.

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

Management and Administration Award - This award is presented to an individual who has made conspicuously outstanding contributions in management and administration, to include areas of healthcare administration, information management, resource management and logistics, and demonstrated superior leadership while serving in the federal healthcare system.

Eligibility: An individual federal (military, VA or USPHS) healthcare leader, administrator or manager in healthcare management or logistics.

***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 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

Eligibility: Nominations are open to an individual of the appropriate functional area within federal medicine, Public Health Service, or the VA healthcare system.

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 12-18 months warranting AMSUS recognition.
2. Evidence that those accomplishments had a meaningful impact on their mission or organization.

Award Categories

Communications Award – The award nomination packet should discuss the individual’s leadership ability in a communications environment, media relations, social media, strategic communications planning and execution and any aspect in a strategic communications profile that highlights measured success. The Communicator of the Year award is presented to an individual who clearly demonstrated the ability to Tell the Story effectively in military health. The narrative can be in a communications campaign (the role of an organization or team in support of the Covid-19 pandemic), a special event (recognition of National Nurses Week) or individual achievements such as media engagement, internal communications or social media that had an impact on a target audience. The nomination packet should emphasize specifically the individual’s impact as a communicator (informing the public through multiple communications channels, changing public opinion such as increased vaccine confidence, etc.).

Operational Medicine Award – recognizes an individual who has provided outstanding healthcare service or support in an operational unit or deployed status. Evidence that the accomplishments or positive impacts affect an operational unit’s readiness or actually support in an operational deployed environment.

William Gorgas Preventive Medicine Award – recognizes an individual for distinguished work in preventive medicine in the area of clinical application, education, or research.

Research & Development Award - recognizes an individual that has made a significant discovery or contribution in federal, Public Health or VA health research and development.

Training and Education Award - recognizes an individual whose contribution in healthcare education and training and has positively impacted the federal, Public Health or VA healthcare system.

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.