

National award level for this year! 1st place **\$5,000** (plus \$1,500 travel expense); 2nd place **\$2,000**; 3rd place **\$1,000**; 4th place **\$250** and 5th place **\$250**

The following criteria applies to a cadet nominated by his/her JROTC Unit for Outstanding Cadet in the enhanced program:

JROTC Enhanced 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 Student Body Class. (**Each year we receive entries not in top 25%**)

The 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 completed 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.*** .

There is a special **Chapter Outstanding Cadet Medal Package** (bronze medallion with neck ribbon) for the Enhanced Program Winner, available at the NSSAR Store. The OC Medal Package (bronze medal 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.

There is a special **State Outstanding Cadet 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.

The **State Society Winner's (Enhanced Program) Outstanding Cadet Package** should reach me **NLT Friday 1 May 2022**. Preferred method of receipt is by email.

DO NOT SEND REGISTERED MAIL – if mailed, use below address (Again the preferred method of receipt is by email)

COL Patrick Niemann, USA, ret.
15 Timuquana Trail
Pinehurst, NC 28374

Recommend 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. *State Societies are encouraged to send me a copy of the OC Package by e-mail (Word or PDF)*

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS/COMMENTS:

* If the SMI (Senior Military Instructor) has not already been contacted, now is the time for the Chapter Representative (President, Vice President, JROTC Chair) to affect liaison with the SMI at each JROTC Unit supported by the Chapter and reiterate the requirements for the Enhanced Program (sometimes referred to as the JROTC Outstanding Cadet Essay Contest).

* Topic for the 500-700 word original Essay remains as in previous years - "How JROTC has prepared me to be a better citizen of the United States of America." Essay should be doubled spaced (a line between each typed line) and the **Cadet's name, rank and Units name and school should be on the first page. The cadet's name should appear on each page of the Essay. A word count must be displayed.**

*The Nominating Form clearly states that **additional pages may be attached**, as required

***Lessons Learned from the last couple of years:**

- SMI should complete Nomination Form with input from cadet - list sponsor, chapter/state society. If extra space/pages are needed to answer a section, then please provide it.
- 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, Employment, After School programs and Weekend Activity, etc.

- Ensure the cadet **is a Junior**
- 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).
- Strong Endorsements (Recommendations) by Principal and SMI are critical. Try not to repeat the same information about the cadet.
- Essays are not proctored, there is no excuse for spelling or grammar errors (please proof) and **must** include a Word Count.

- Only complete OC Packages will be forwarded to the Judges

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail or phone.

Yours in patriotism,

COL Patrick J. Niemann, USA Ret.
NSSAR ROTC/JROTC/Service Academies Committee Vice Chair and
Enhanced Program Coordinator

■ Funding Raising for the JROTC Operating Fund

For those who would like to recognize one or more of your JROTC military instructors for his or her work with supporting our program, I would like to suggest the JROTC lapel pin that we have available for sale.

The sales generated from these lapel pins is being used to increase the JROTC operating fund, from which we draw each year to cover the costs of the awards, so the more we are able to raise, the more we can increase the annual awards.

The pin is 3/4 inch in diameter and costs \$25.

