

# SELECTION CRITERIA

OneStar Foundation is pleased to accept nominations for the 37th Annual Governor’s Volunteer Awards! The Governor’s Volunteer Awards honor the extraordinary impact of individuals and organizations in Texas that have made a significant and measurable difference in their communities through exemplary service and volunteering.

Awardees will be honored in the fall at an evening reception at the Texas Governor’s Mansion, hosted by Honorary Chair Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott and OneStar Foundation.



This document contains the criteria that will be used to evaluate all submitted nominations. Please use this criteria to guide and evaluate your submission. All nominations must meet the following guidelines to be eligible for consideration.

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

	Yes	No
Nomination was NOT submitted by the nominee or an immediate family members.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The volunteer service was performed <b>in Texas serving primarily Texans</b> .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A significant amount of volunteer service was performed during or after calendar year 2019 (with the exception of nominations in the <i>Governor’s Lone Star Achievement Award</i> category, which recognizes lifetime achievement).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The nominee has not received the award within the past five years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The nominee is currently not on the OneStar staff or board and is not an immediate family member of the OneStar staff/board.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Presents compelling quantifiable evidence of the nominee's involvement and impact (e.g., volunteer hours, duration of service, number of people served, measurable impact on community).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shows how the nominee's approach to volunteer service is innovative or unique.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shows how the nominee's volunteer service is well-planned and executed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illustrates how the nominee's volunteer service has an impact on the overall community (i.e., not just a specific organization).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explains how the nominee's impact can be sustained or replicated beyond their involvement.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shows how the nominee collaboratively engages multiple partners for greater impact.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shows how the nominee inspires others to serve their cause through volunteering and service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illustrates the nominee's consistent history of volunteering and service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explains the nominee's known future plans for continuing to volunteer and serve.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## GOVERNOR'S LONE STAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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This award recognizes the exemplary service of an individual who has volunteered for a minimum of 15 years. Lone Star Achievers are those rare individuals who recognize a community need and create new systems, programs, and/or processes to achieve positive change. Nominees inspire others to serve their cause through volunteering and philanthropy, often engaging cross sector partners for greater impact.

*Additional Criteria:*

- Did the nominee devote a minimum of 15 years to their cause?
- Did the nominee create new systems, programs, and/or processes to achieve positive change?

## FIRST LADY'S RISING STAR AWARD

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This award recognizes the extraordinary contributions of an individual 18 years or younger serving and inspiring his/her community. Nominees should demonstrate leadership, commitment to service and the ability to inspire others to serve. Rising Stars mobilize others to achieve measurable impact on critical issues within their communities. Nominees understand the importance of collaboration and cross-generational partnerships.

*Additional Criteria:*

- Will the nominee be 18 years of age or younger as of October 31, 2020?

## PARTNERS IN EDUCATION AWARD

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This award recognizes an individual or group that demonstrates measurable impact on a recognized need within a public, charter or parochial school(s). The Partner has implemented innovative and/or informed or evidence-based solutions to further educational goals for students. Nominees are committed to long-term results and employ an evaluation component for continual learning and improvement of the program or intervention.

*Additional Criteria:*

- Can the nominee show that if not for their intervention, students would not have achieved specific results?
- Is there an evaluation mechanism to provide feedback to school and volunteer leadership?

## SERVICE TO VETERANS AWARD

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Nominees may include individuals or organizations that have designed program(s) or services to meet the needs of military-connected families or individuals. The exemplary service will show respect for the unique challenges of military-connected families and individuals. The awardee will demonstrate cross-sector engagement including significant input from those served.

### *Additional Criteria:*

- Are they providing a service to meet significant needs unique to military-connected families and individuals that otherwise would not be met?
- Is there an evaluation component to allow for continual learning and program improvement?

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

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This award recognizes an individual, group or organization for strengthening their community through intentional partnerships. Nominees understand the importance of service and developing connections between groups and individuals and forge collaborative solutions to meet local needs. They exhibit a dedication to their communities that inspires those around them to serve. Any individual, group of individuals, faith-based or community organization including civic groups can be nominated for this award.

### *Additional Criteria:*

- Did the nominee leverage their skills and knowledge to bring together representatives from different community organizations to solve a local community issue?
- Did the solution address not only immediate needs but also root causes of the issues they were addressing?
- Did the nominee help create relationships that will last beyond the current collaborative program?

## HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

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This award recognizes a university, college, or community college that supports and encourages civic engagement and volunteering as a core value. Nominees should demonstrate how students are engaged in intentional cross sector collaboration to address one or more identified needs within the community. The institution is considered a valuable partner in addressing community needs.

### *Additional Criteria:*

- Does the institution express civic engagement and volunteerism as a core value?
- Has the volunteering/service program had a measurable impact upon the community issue(s) it seeks to address?
- Are students and faculty intentional about addressing root causes rather than presenting needs?

## **CORPORATE COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD**

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This award recognizes a private sector entity, including small businesses, for implementing employee volunteer programs that have demonstrable community impact. Nominees have community service as a core value and business strategy. Nominees go beyond episodic volunteering and are committed to long term community engagement. Corporations or other for-profit, private sector entities/businesses are eligible for the Corporate Community Impact Award.

### *Additional Criteria:*

- Can the nominee show the impact of sustained volunteering as opposed to episodic volunteering?
- Is the business entity committed to continuing the volunteer program beyond employee turnover?
- Is there an evaluation component to inform program effectiveness?

## **NATIONAL SERVICE “MAKE A DIFFERENCE” AWARD**

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This award recognizes the exemplary achievement of an AmeriCorps or SeniorCorps member who is currently serving or has served the State of Texas in any of the following categories: AmeriCorps VISTA; AmeriCorps Texas; AmeriCorps National; National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC); or SeniorCorps. The volunteer/member has achieved extraordinary impact above and beyond the scope of their service requirement. The nominee ensures the sustainability of a program or a nonprofit organization by building service capacity, or by improving lives through direct service or capacity building. Members must have successfully completed or be on track to complete his/her term of service, minimum hours requirement, and all other service requirements to be eligible.

### *Additional Criteria:*

- Does the nominee clearly exhibit extraordinary service beyond the scope of their service requirement?
- Has the nominee completed/is the nominee on track to complete his/her term of service, minimum hours requirement, and all other service requirements?