Greetings from the Governor

Dear West Virginians:

Our great state is full of amazing men and women who volunteer their time to help their fellow citizens. As your Governor, I am honored to present the 2020 Governor’s Service Awards to individuals and groups who demonstrate the true spirit of volunteerism. When we help others, we uplift our communities and make West Virginia a better place to call home.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the stories of everyday heroes in the Mountain State. If you know an outstanding individual, family, group, or business who shines as a volunteer superstars, I encourage you to nominate them for these awards!

If we don’t hear from you, we might miss an opportunity to honor someone who truly deserves it. Make sure to submit your nominations by May 13, 2020.

For more information about this program, please contact Volunteer West Virginia, the State’s Commission for National and Community Service, at 304-558-0111 or visit volunteerwv.org.

I look forward to your submissions. Thank you for helping to shine a light on West Virginia’s volunteers and their inspiring stories!

Sincerely,

Jim Justice
Governor

Nominations due or postmarked by May 13, 2020.
Greetings from the Governor

Dear West Virginians:

Our great state is full of amazing men and women who volunteer their time to help their fellow citizens. As your Governor, I am honored to present the 2020 Governor’s Service Awards to individuals and groups who demonstrate the true spirit of volunteerism. When we help others, we uplift our communities and make West Virginia a better place to call home.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the stories of everyday heroes in the Mountain State. If you know an outstanding individual, family, group, or business who shines as a volunteer superstar, I encourage you to nominate them for these awards!

If we don’t hear from you, we might miss an opportunity to honor someone who truly deserves it. Make sure to submit your nominations by May 13, 2020.

For more information about this program, please contact Volunteer West Virginia, the State’s Commission for National and Community Service, at 304-558-0111 or visit volunteerwv.org.

I look forward to your submissions. Thank you for helping to shine a light on West Virginia’s volunteers and their inspiring stories!

Sincerely,

Jim Justice
Governor

Nomination Form

Due or postmarked by May 13, 2020
Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2019-2020. Because the goal of the Governor’s Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts, awards are not always given in all categories. More than one award may be made per category.

Youth
Recognizes young individuals aged 6-18 who made significant contributions in 2019-2020 through outstanding volunteer efforts that serve as models for other young volunteers.

Adult
Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 18-59 for volunteer service in 2019-2020.

Blind or Low Vision
Recognizes an individual or organization that makes outstanding contributions to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Lifetime Achievement
Recognizes an individual over the course of his or her lifetime, who has made significant contributions to West Virginia through volunteer efforts.

Family
Recognize a group of at least two members of the same family who provided outstanding volunteer service together in 2019-2020.

Business
Recognize a business that supported volunteerism through its policies and practices in 2019-2020.

Volunteer Corps

Any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in volunteer service benefiting the state may be nominated.

Except for Lifetime Achievement, nominations should include significant activities occurring during 2019-2020.

Employees and members of the board of Volunteer West Virginia and the Office of the Governor are not eligible for an award and may not submit an application.

Posthumous nominations are not eligible.

Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2019-2020. Because the goal of the Governor’s Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts, awards are not always given in all categories. More than one award may be made per category.

Youth
Recognizes young individuals aged 6-18 who made significant contributions in 2019-2020 through outstanding volunteer efforts that serve as models for other young volunteers.

Adult
Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 18-59 for volunteer service in 2019-2020.

Blind or Low Vision
Recognizes an individual or organization that makes outstanding contributions to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Lifetime Achievement
Recognizes an individual over the course of his or her lifetime, who has made significant contributions to West Virginia through volunteer efforts.

Family
Recognize a group of at least two members of the same family who provided outstanding volunteer service together in 2019-2020.

Business
Recognize a business that supported volunteerism through its policies and practices in 2019-2020.

Volunteer Corps

Any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in volunteer service benefiting the state may be nominated.

Except for Lifetime Achievement, nominations should include significant activities occurring during 2019-2020.

Employees and members of the board of Volunteer West Virginia and the Office of the Governor are not eligible for an award and may not submit an application.

Posthumous nominations are not eligible.

Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2019-2020. Because the goal of the Governor’s Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts, awards are not always given in all categories. More than one award may be made per category.

Youth
Recognizes young individuals aged 6-18 who made significant contributions in 2019-2020 through outstanding volunteer efforts that serve as models for other young volunteers.

Adult
Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 18-59 for volunteer service in 2019-2020.

Blind or Low Vision
Recognizes an individual or organization that makes outstanding contributions to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Lifetime Achievement
Recognizes an individual over the course of his or her lifetime, who has made significant contributions to West Virginia through volunteer efforts.

Family
Recognize a group of at least two members of the same family who provided outstanding volunteer service together in 2019-2020.

Business
Recognize a business that supported volunteerism through its policies and practices in 2019-2020.

Volunteer Corps
Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2019-2020. Because the goal of the Governor’s Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts, awards are not always given in all categories. More than one award may be made per category.

- Youth
- Adult
- Business
- Group
- Family

Recognizes young individuals age 18-29 who made significant contributions in 2019-2020 through outstanding volunteer efforts that serve as models for young volunteers.

Recognizes the outstanding volunteer contributions of an individual aged 60 or older who served in volunteer service in 2019-2020.

Recognizes an individual, organization or group that has contributed to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Recognizes an individual or group that has made outstanding contributions to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Recognizes an individual, organization, or group that has made outstanding contributions to disaster services in West Virginia in 2019-2020.

Recognizes a family that has served together in volunteer service in 2019-2020.

Recognizes outstanding contributions by businesses in West Virginia that provide volunteer opportunities and support.

Recognizes at least two members of the same family who have received an award in the last ten years not eligible for consideration.

Recognizes any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in volunteer service benefiting the state may be nominated.

Except for Lifetime Achievement, nominations should include significant activities occurring during 2019-2020.

Employees and members of the board of Volunteer West Virginia and the Office of the Governor are not eligible to receive an award and may not submit an application.

Posthumous nominations are not eligible.

Individuals, organizations and families that have received an award in the last ten years not eligible for consideration.

All nominations must be complete in one package when submitted. Any materials received separately will not be returned. Nominations received will not be accompanied or answered in the mail.

Please include the following:

- Official Nomination Form

Attach the appropriate category in the left-hand column of the form, and complete all the information required. For individuals, please indicate the nominator’s age. For families, organizations, and businesses identify a contact person who will represent the group at the awards banquet.

- The Statement

Attach a narrative statement of 500 words or less that describes the nominee’s community service activities and that illustrates how those activities address the community’s needs. In the review process, the judges use the statement criteria listed below. Please be sure to address each of these criteria within the statement. Include specific information on how and when the activity began.

- Supporting Materials

Up to five 8.5" x 11" pages (front and back) of supporting materials describing the nominee’s service. They may also include five (5) pages of other supporting information. All submitted materials become the property of Volunteer West Virginia and will not be returned.

- References

Up to three references including name, phone number, and email may be submitted. The reference may not be the nominator, nominee, relative of the nominee, or someone who has been nominated in the past.

- Important

Important: All materials submitted with the nomination form must be complete in one package when submitted. Any materials received separately will not be returned. Any materials received separately will not be returned.

- Eligibility

Any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in volunteer service benefiting the state may be nominated.

- Nomination Checklist

All information must be complete in one package when submitted. Any materials received separately will not be returned or acknowledged in the judging process.

- Statement Criteria

None of the Governor’s Service Awards is to recognize outstanding and extraordinary volunteer service efforts that serve as models for young volunteers.

- Helpful Hints

Responses to the criteria questions should be specific and should highlight the special qualities, impacts, and community of the nominee’s service unique to the volunteer service.

- General Information

- Recipients of the Governor’s Service Award will receive the award from the Governor at a banquet on August 27, 2020 at the Culture Center in Charleston, West Virginia. The awardees will be selected from an independent panel of judges.

- Ongoing Involvement

What did the nominee do to meet the community need through volunteer service? With the exception of Lifetime Achievement, nominations should be made primarily for the current accomplishments achieved in the 2019-2020 calendar year. The statement should answer such questions as:

- What significant event occurred for which the nominee was responsible?
- How were you involved?
- Did the nominee recruit other volunteers to help with the project?
- What long-term impact has the volunteer activity had on the community?
Categories

Awards may be presented to nominees in each of the following categories for significant volunteer service contributions in 2019-2020.

- Youth (6-18)
- Disaster Service
- National Service (AmeriCorps, VISTA, Senior Corps)
- Business
- Adult

Eligibility

- Any individual, organization, group, family, or business in West Virginia actively engaged in voluntary service benefiting the state may be nominated.
- Exceptions to Lifetime Achievement: nominations should include significant activities occurring during 2019-2020.
- Employees and members of the board of Volunteer West Virginia and the Office of the Governor are not eligible for an award.
- Posthumous nominations are not eligible.
- Individuals, organizations and families that have received an award in the last ten years are not eligible for consideration.

Nomination Checklist

- All nominations must be complete in one package when submitted. Any materials received separately will not be processed.

Statement Criteria

- Please remember that the reviewers’ only knowledge about the nominee’s volunteer efforts is through the materials submitted with the nomination. Your 500-word statement should address the following criteria that will be used in reviewing and judging the nominations:
  - Impact: What difference was made in the community or the state because of the volunteer activity? Was it specific?
  - Innovation: How was the nominee innovative in performing volunteer service? In what areas did the volunteer activity make people think differently about their actions?
  - Ongoing Involvement: What is the nominee’s involvement as an active volunteer? Has the volunteer activity been sustained over time?

Helpful Hints

- Respond to the criteria questions should be specific and should highlight the special qualities, impacts, and commitment that make the nominee’s service unique.
- Written nominations with supporting material score higher with the review panel.
- Be specific.
- Responses to the criteria questions should be specific and should highlight the special qualities, impacts, and commitment that make the nominee’s service unique.

Nominations Form 2020

- Recipients of the Governor’s Service Awards will receive a certificate and a congratulatory statement from the Governor. Recipients of the Governor’s Service Awards will receive a certificate and a congratulatory statement from the Governor.
- To be considered as a nomination, materials must be received postmarked by August 27, 2020.
- Decisions of the independent panel of judges are final and cannot be appealed.
- Nomination forms are available at www.volunteerwv.org.
- Please provide a brief statement describing the nominee’s volunteer community service activity.
- Volunteer West Virginia cannot respond to queries on nominations.

Nominations Form 2020

- Recipients of the Governor’s Service Awards will receive a certificate and a congratulatory statement from the Governor. Recipients of the Governor’s Service Awards will receive a certificate and a congratulatory statement from the Governor.
- To be considered as a nomination, materials must be received postmarked by August 27, 2020.
- Decisions of the independent panel of judges are final and cannot be appealed.
- Nomination forms are available at www.volunteerwv.org.
- Please provide a brief statement describing the nominee’s volunteer community service activity.
- Volunteer West Virginia cannot respond to queries on nominations.