



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT ASSOCIATION

September 22, 2025

Greetings from your Southeast Louisiana (SELA) Council National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Committee's Awards Subcommittee. We have updated the information for the multiple National NESA-related awards. Included is detailed information on each award, including its criteria, submission deadlines, and necessary forms and supporting documentation. If you have questions, please contact Kevin F. Jura, the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Chair, at (850) 393-4550 or kfjura@gmail.com.

List of Awards

- Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA)
- National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA)
- NESA Distinguished Service Award (DSA)
- NESA Silver Wreath Award
- Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams Service Project of the Year Award (**new** information & application form)

Nomination Submission Methods

All DESA, NOESA, NESA DSA, NESA Silver Wreath Award, and NESA Service Project of the Year Award nominations must be submitted to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee using one of the following three (3) methods: 1) email, 2) US mail, or 3) in person. Please follow the submission directions below:

Email: Please email all *completed* nominations, *including* all supporting documentation, as (a) PDF file(s) to:

- Kevin Jura (kfjura@gmail.com) **and cc**
- Torrey Hayden (Torrey.Hayden@scouting.org) **and** Nancy Allen (Nancy.Allen@scouting.org).

US Mail: Mail the *completed* nomination, *including* all supporting documentation, to:

Southeast Louisiana Council, BSA
NESA Awards Subcommittee
Attention: Kevin F. Jura, Chair
Post Office Box 1146
Metairie, LA 70004-1146

In Person: Deliver the *completed* nomination, *including* all supporting documentation, to Torrey Hayden or Nancy Allen at the SELAC Offices in a **sealed** envelope addressed to:

"The Attention of Kevin F. Jura, Chair – SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee"

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin F. Jura at (850) 393-4550 or kfjura@gmail.com.

Yours in Scouting,

Kevin F. Jura
Chair, Awards Subcommittee
National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Committee
Southeast Louisiana Council, BSA

Enclosure:

Southeast Louisiana Council National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Awards Information (September 22, 2025)

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Southeast Louisiana Council



National NESA-related Awards Information

Southeast Louisiana Council, BSA
National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Committee
Awards Subcommittee

September 22, 2025

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Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA)

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA) is the National Eagle Scout Association's (NESA's) highest recognition. The Award was established to recognize Eagle Scouts who, after 25 years or longer of having received the Eagle Scout Award, have reached the highest national level of success in their field. In addition, these recipients have demonstrated a strong record of volunteer leadership service to their community.

All DESA nominations must be made through the candidate's local council, with approval by the council's NESA committee. The award may not be granted posthumously. For confidentiality, the candidate should not be notified of their nomination

Nomination Requirements

- Nominees must have earned the Eagle Scout rank through the Boy Scouts of America at least 25 years before submission.
- The nomination must state specific reasons with supporting facts, such as how the nominee has received extraordinary national-level recognition, fame, or eminence within a particular profession.
- A nominee should also have a strong record of voluntary service to their community. Such service is concurrent to a distinguished career, not in place of one.
- Service to Scouting is not required.
- Nominations are forwarded to the National Eagle Scout Association by the sponsoring Council according to published procedures. It is the responsibility of the local Council within the territory of the nominee's primary residence to submit a nomination. In cases where a nominee may maintain two residences, a nominating council must obtain the written concurrence of the second council.

Special Considerations

- A time-tested policy of keeping nominees unaware of their nominations is effective in avoiding embarrassment and disappointment. It is also not uncommon for BSA's top distinguished awards nominees to be considered more than once.
- In that same spirit, the presentation should only be scheduled after NESA has formally notified the Council of the DESA Committee's decision in writing.
- Ideally, the DESA is best presented at an event/meeting of the recipient's peers rather than a Scouting function for maximum positive effects among peers and related publicity.
- The presentation should be made within the territory of the Council, submitting the nomination and, whenever possible, by a Distinguished Eagle Scout.
- Presenting it as part of a Council's fundraising activity, such as a special DESA dinner, is also appropriate.

Required Documentation

- DESA Nomination Form (<https://nesa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/DESA-Nomination-Form-3.19.25.pdf>)
- Nominee's current CV (preferred) or detailed resume
 - Include a detailed list of awards, honors, books/articles written, or other information pertinent to the nominee's accomplishments in the nominee's professional field and community service.
- Minimum of 3 *detailed* Letters of Endorsement (see "Supporting Documentation" below for more information on what should be included in a Letter of Endorsement)
- Copy of Nominee's Eagle Scout Award (if possible – inability to include this item will *not* prevent the nomination from being considered)
- Copy of Nominee's National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA) (if applicable or possible – inability to include this item will *not* prevent the nomination from being considered)

Supporting Documentation

- Supporting documentation should be submitted for review with the signed application. No minimum number of pages is required for review; however, a substantial percentage of nominations are declined due to the lack of sufficient supporting materials.
- You should put forth your best effort in presenting the nominee's complete qualifications for the award. The volunteers of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award Selection Task Force make the decision, and that decision is final.
- To render a fair decision, the DESA Selection Task Force must receive detailed information documenting the candidate's achievements in his field and volunteer service to his community. The descriptions of the nominee's accomplishments should be specific and detailed.
- Explain clearly the relative significance of awards and honors received by the nominee.
- Letters of endorsement should contain facts about the nominee's achievements and recognitions. Information submitted with the nomination form should demonstrate how the candidate has "distinguished" himself from other field colleagues.

Defining Who is “Distinguished”

Their colleagues typically recognize DESA recipients as the best in their field. As evidence of distinction, these men are nationally known and have an impressive record of peer recognition. Based on the documentation provided, the DESA Selection Task Force will determine whether the candidate is worthy of the DESA. As such, it is the council’s responsibility to honor the candidate’s life’s work by sufficiently and thoroughly documenting his qualifications.

Southeast Louisiana Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Timeline

Submission Period to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee [†]	January 01 st – May 31 st
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Initial Eligibility Review	June 01 st – June 30 th
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Review & Voting	July 01 st – July 15 th
SELA Council Submission to the National NESA Committee [‡]	July 31 st
National NESA Committee Initial Eligibility Review	August 1 st – September 30 th
National NESA Committee Reviews and Votes on Nominations	October 1 st – November 30 th
National NESA Committee Notifies Council NESA Committee	December 1 st – 9 th
Current Year DESA Recipients Notified and Publicly Announced	December 10 th – 14 th

- † The SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee accepts nominations for the DESA year-round. However, any nomination submitted on/after June 1st of each year will only be considered for the *following* calendar year (i.e., a submission made on/before May 31, 2025, will be considered for the DESA class of 2025, while a submission made after July 01, 2025, will be considered for the DESA class of 2026.
- ‡ If July 31st falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the nomination will be submitted to the National NESA Committee on the next business day immediately *preceding* July 31st (i.e., July 29th or 30th) of that year.

National NESA DESA Website

<https://nesa.org/awards-and-recognition/distinguished-eagle-scout-award/>

National Outstanding Eagle Scout Award

The National Eagle Scout Association established the NESA Outstanding Eagle Scout Award (NOESA) to commemorate the Boy Scouts of America's 100th Anniversary in 2010. Since its inception, the award has become an important recognition among Eagle Scouts, recognizing their distinction, with less stringent** requirements for the prestigious Distinguished Eagle Scout Award (DESA).

Known by its acronym, a NOESA is approved by NESA's national award committee via nomination through a local council NESA committee. The award is presented solely to Eagle Scouts who demonstrate remarkable achievements beyond their Scouting endeavors by excelling in their careers/vocations at local, regional, or national levels. NOESA recipients inspire others through their positive actions, demonstrating excellence in their chosen professions, hobbies, community service, and adherence to religious beliefs. Notable past recipients include authors, explorers, television personalities, military leaders, scientists, medical doctors, academics, clergy, government officials, prominent business figures, and entrepreneurs.

The presentation of the NOESA must be conducted with the honor expected of a national-level award and preferably presented by a Distinguished Eagle Scout or other distinguished citizen. When properly presented in a dignified manner, a local Council's recognition and related publicity of NOESA recipients serve to elevate the public stature and reputation of Eagle Scouts while enhancing community goodwill.

** The DESA requires a 25-year period regarded as the minimum average time necessary to achieve fame, eminence, or distinction within a profession. Additionally, the DESA requires far more rigorous justification, documentation, and investigation before approval.

Nomination Requirements

- The nominee must be an Eagle Scout in good standing with the Boy Scouts of America and must either be registered with or have their primary residence within the boundaries of the nominating council.
- No specific timeline is required to qualify for this award after earning the Eagle Rank. Therefore, in extremely rare cases, a truly outstanding youth, such as an Olympic athlete, may be eligible for selection.
- The nominating council should retain details regarding actions and accomplishments that led to the nominee's consideration for the award. Only the data required by the nomination form should be submitted to the National Eagle Scout Association.
- Nominations must be sent to the National Eagle Scout Association by the council's designee; individuals may not submit nominations.

Special Considerations

- Each council NESA committee may present two NOESA honors per year, with an option of awarding an additional NOESA for every 100 Eagle Scout ranks earned or a fraction of more than 100 awards certified during the previous year. Unused allotments will not be carried over into future years.
- Nominees should not be informed of the nomination; presentation should only be scheduled after NESA has provided NOESA credentials to the council. Allow two to four weeks for processing.
- Approvals are based on policies and procedures in effect when the National Eagle Scout Association receives nominations.
- The award may be presented at a meeting of the recipient's peers or a Scouting function. The presentation should be made within the council submitting the nomination and, whenever possible, by a previous award recipient. It is fitting that the award be presented as part of a fundraising event.

Required Documentation

- NOESA Nomination Form (<https://nesa.org/noesa-nomination-form-3-19-25/>)
- Nominee's current CV (preferred) or detailed resume
 - Include a detailed list of awards, honors, books/articles written, or other information pertinent to the nominee's accomplishments in the nominee's professional field and community service.
- Minimum of 3 *detailed* Letters of Endorsement
- Copy of Nominee's Eagle Scout Award (if possible – inability to include this item will *not* prevent the nomination from being considered)

Supporting Documentation

- Supporting documentation should be submitted for review with the signed application. No minimum number of pages is required for review; however, a substantial percentage of nominations are declined due to the lack of sufficient supporting materials.
- You should put forth your best effort in presenting the nominee's complete qualifications for the award. The volunteers of the SELAC NESA Awards Subcommittee make the decision, and that decision is final.

Southeast Louisiana Council National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Awards Information

- To render a fair decision, the SELAC NESA Awards Subcommittee must receive detailed information documenting the candidate's achievements in his field and volunteer service to his community. The descriptions of the nominee's accomplishments should be specific.
- Explain clearly the relative significance of awards and honors received by the nominee.
- Letters of endorsement should contain facts about the nominee's achievements and recognitions. Information submitted with the nomination form should demonstrate how the candidate has "distinguished" himself from other field colleagues.

Southeast Louisiana Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Timeline

Submission Period to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee [†]	January 01 st – October 31 st
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Initial Eligibility Review	November 01 st – November 15 th
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Review & Voting	November 16 th – December 15 th
SELA Council Submission to the National NESA Committee	December 16 th [‡]
Current Year NOESA Recipients Notified and Publicly Announced	January 15 th – 31 st

[†] The SELAC NESA Awards Subcommittee accepts nominations for the DESA year-round. However, any nomination submitted on/after October 15th of each year will only be considered for the *following* calendar year (i.e., a submission made on/before July 15, 2024, will be considered for the DESA class of 2024, while a submission made after July 15, 2024, will be considered for the NOESA class of 2025).

[‡] If December 16th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, the nomination will be submitted to the National NESA Committee on the next business day immediately following December 16th (i.e., December 17th or 18th) of that year.

National NESA NOESA Website

<https://nesa.org/awards-and-recognition/outstanding-eagle-scout-award/>

NESA Distinguished Service Award

The purpose of the National Eagle Scout Association's (NESA's) Distinguished Service Award (DSA) is to recognize those who have given a lifetime of extraordinary leadership and service nationally to NESA, resulting in a significant impact on a national or territorial level. It is awarded for dedicated service over a sustained period of years to NESA, promotion of Eagle Scouting, staying active, or returning to Scouting, and/or promoting/helping young people earn the rank of Eagle Scouts. Awards are limited in number and are typically presented during Scouting America's National Annual Meeting (NAM). Unused quotas cannot be carried over to subsequent years.

Reintroduction of the Distinguished Service Award by NESA

In 1976, NESA established this award for service to NESA, which honored 25 individuals between 1976 and 1989. Following this period, the National NESA committee underwent a substantial reorganization. This resulted in the suspension of the award, which was reintroduced in 2020. Nationally, there has been an outpouring of support to reinstate the award, recognizing the leaders (both volunteer and professional) who further NESA and the Eagle Scout Award.

Nomination Requirements

- The nominee must be an Eagle Scout in good standing with the Boy Scouts of America and must either be registered with or have their primary residence within the boundaries of the nominating council.
- The nominating council should retain details regarding actions and accomplishments that led to the nominee's consideration for the award. Only the data required by the nomination form should be submitted to the National Eagle Scout Association.
- Nominations must be sent to the National Eagle Scout Association by the council's designee; individuals may not submit nominations.

Required Documentation

- NESA DSA Nomination Form (<https://nesa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/DSA-Nomination-Form-3.19.25.pdf>)
- Nominee's current CV (preferred) or detailed resume
 - Include a detailed list of awards, honors, books/articles written, or other information pertinent to the nominee's accomplishments in the nominee's professional field and community service.
- In 150 words or less, describe how the nominee demonstrated impactful leadership and/or service to NESA at a national or council service territory level over a period of years. Please use bullet format.
- In 150 words or less, provide examples of the nominee's specific, significant impact on NESA's image, reputation, membership, and effectiveness. Please use bullet format.
- A *maximum* of two supporting letters may be attached (250 words or less). Effective letters provide additional, first-hand information rather than simple personal endorsements or data already stated in the narrative nomination

Southeast Louisiana Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Timeline

Submission Period to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee [†]	January 01 st – August 31 st
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Initial Eligibility Review [‡]	September 01 st – September 31 st
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Review & Voting	October 01 st – October 15 th
SELA Council Submission to the National NESA Committee	October 16 th [‡]
Current Year NESA DSA Recipients Notified and Publicly Announced	January 15 th – 31 st

[†] The SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee accepts nominations for the DESA year-round. However, any nomination submitted on/after September 01st of each year will only be considered for the *following* calendar year (i.e., a submission made on/before August 31, 2025, will be considered for the NESA DSA class of 2026, while a submission made after September 01, 2025, will be considered for the NOESA class of 2026.

[‡] If October 16th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, the nomination will be submitted to the National NESA Committee on the next business day immediately following October 16th (i.e., October 17th or 18th) of that year.

National NESA DSA Website

<https://nesa.org/awards-and-recognition/nesa-distinguished-service-award/>

NESA Silver Wreath Award

In the mid-1970s, the National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) committee established the NESA Silver Wreath Award for service to NESA. Local Councils with active NESA Committees may recognize individual leadership and/or service by committee members via the Silver Wreath Award. The award was suspended in the 1980s and reinstated in late 2023.

Guidelines for Approving Nominations

- Recipients must be members in good standing in NESA for at least two years.
- Each Council NESA Committee may nominate two awards per calendar year. Where one of the Key Three is nominated, the other two members must approve.
- No more than one of the Key Three can be nominated in a calendar year, and in such cases, the individual considered from among the Key Three cannot take part in the selection process.
- The National NESA Committee may also use discretion to independently select and approve two awards per subcommittee to recognize NESA activity/service that extends beyond the local Council NESA Committee, such as within the territory, and/or at the national level. The National NESA Committee may also grant this award upon approval by the NESA President, and it does not count towards the Council's allotment of Silver Wreath of the Year awards.
- Nominees may earn the NESA Silver Wreath Award one time only.
- The Silver Wreath may not be granted posthumously

Required Documentation

- NESA Silver Wreath Nomination Form (<https://nesa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Silver-Wreath-Nomination-3.19.25.pdf>)
- Proof of a minimum of 2 current years of good standing (or Life Membership) in NESA.
- A write-up describing how the nominee has given significant leadership and service to NESA at national, territory, or council levels over a significant period of time? *Limited to 150 words.*
- A write-up describing how the nominee, over a period of years, has significantly promoted the NESA mission and/or reengaged Eagle Scouts in service to their council, territory, or national level. *Limited to 150 words.*
- Maximum of 2 Letters of Recommendation**

** Letters are not to exceed one (1) page in length. Supporting letters should provide supporting evidence of worthiness to be honored with the NESA Silver Wreath Award recognition, not just personal recommendations, endorsements, or recapitulation of the nomination.

Southeast Louisiana Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Timeline

Submission Period to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee†	January 01 st – October 31 st
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Initial Eligibility Review	November 01 st – November 15 th
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Review & Voting	November 16 th – December 15 th
SELA Council Submission to the National NESA Committee‡	December 16 th ‡
Current Year NOESA Recipients Notified and Publicly Announced	January 15 th – 31 st

† The SELAC NESA Awards Subcommittee accepts nominations for the NESA Silver Wreath year-round. However, any nomination submitted on/after October 15th of each year will only be considered for the *following* calendar year (i.e., a submission made on/before October 15, 2024, will be considered for the NESA Silver Wreath class of 2024, while a submission made after October 15, 2024, will be considered for the NESA Silver Wreath class of 2025.

‡ If December 16th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, the nomination will be submitted to the National NESA Committee on the next business day immediately following December 16th (i.e., December 17th or 18th) of that year.

National NESA Silver Wreath Award Website

<https://nesa.org/awards-and-recognition/silver-wreath-award/>

Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year (ESSPY) Award

The National Eagle Scout Association established the Glenn A. and Melinda W. Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year (ESSPY) Award to recognize valuable service of an exceptional nature by an Eagle Scout candidate to a religious institution, school, community, or other entity through completion of an Eagle Scout project.

Examples of projects that have been selected for the ESSPY include those projects that benefited underprivileged children, recognized veterans, and were international in nature, requiring significant time and resources.

The selection of recipients begins at the local level and is conducted through the Council's NESA committee. The Council NESA committee selects a recipient for their respective Council from the list of submitted nominations and then forwards a worthy candidate to the National Eagle Scout Association for Council Service Territory (CST) consideration.

"Territory" ESSPY recipients are selected by NESA's CST scholarship committee. Territory recipients receive \$350 available for their future educational purposes or to attend a national or international Scouting event or activity.

The recipient of the national award is then selected from among territory recipients by a special selection committee of the National Eagle Scout Association. The national recipient receives \$3,500, available for their future educational purposes or to attend a national or international Scouting event or activity.

Nomination Requirements

- An Eagle Scout, parents, or any registered volunteer (with the Eagle Scout's permission) may submit Eagle Scout service projects to their local council for consideration.
- On or before January 31st, the nomination must be submitted to the NESA committee of the council in which the service project was completed.
- Example: An Eagle Scout who completed an Eagle Board of Review in 2025, must have their nomination in by January 31, 2026.

Evaluation Criteria

- Project planning required
- Effort to develop the project, taking into account challenges overcome by the Scout, such as disability or limited financial capacity for the Scout/Scout family
- Extent and character of leadership provided by the Scout
- Extent of achievement of the planned result, including changes or modifications required to complete the project
- Project's impact on the beneficiary and/or on the community at large
- Did the project create a "leverage opportunity" where it inspires others to expand the scope of the project
- Originality of the project
- Scope of the work
- Time and materials contributed
- Level of skill employed to complete the project

Required Documentation

- Current year's NESA Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams ESSPY Award nomination form
 - 2026 ESSPY Nomination Form (<https://nesa.org/adams-nesa-project-nomination-form-2026-fillable-2025-09-04/>)
- A **single PDF file** with the following items:
 - Entire Eagle Scout Service Project Workbook (proposal, plan, and report sections)
 - Maximum of 10 Project photographs
 - **Optional** supporting documentation (drawings, news articles, etc.)

Project Summary Video

It is ***strongly recommended*** that the Scout record a short video, which can be included as part of this nomination form, between 3 and 5 minutes long. The video should tell the story of their Eagle Scout Service Project and describe the impact on both their community and themselves. The video file format must be MP4, WMV, or MOV. It should be uploaded to a cloud-based storage site (such as Google Drive or Dropbox) with permission to view and download.

Southeast Louisiana Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Timeline

Submission Period to the SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee[†].....February 01st – January 31st

Southeast Louisiana Council National Eagle Scout Association (NESA) Awards Information

SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Initial Eligibility Review.....	February 01 st – February 14 th
SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee Review & Voting.....	February 15 th – February 24 th
SELA Council Submission to the National NESA Committee [‡]	February 28 th

- † The SELA Council NESA Awards Subcommittee accepts nominations for the Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams ESSPY Award year-round. However, any nomination for an Eagle Scout Project completed the previous year submitted on/after February 01st will **not** be considered for the *following* calendar year (i.e., a 2025 Eagle Scout Project submission made on/before January 31, 2026, will be considered for the 2026 Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams ESSPY Award, while a submission made after February 01, 2026, will **not** be considered for the 2027 Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams ESSPY Award).
- ‡ If February 28th falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the nomination will be submitted to the National NESA Committee on the next business day immediately *preceding* February 28th (i.e., July 26th or 27th) of that year.

National NESA Glenn A. & Melinda W. Adams Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award Website

<https://nesa.org/awards-and-recognition/service-project-of-the-year-award/>