



MY26 Volunteer Awards Change Memo

The Volunteer Strategy Department staff met with the GSCTX Volunteer Awards Committee in May 2025 to review, revise, and improve the volunteer awards criteria, processes, and procedures. This memo summarizes and explains the MY26 volunteer awards changes.

Council and National Awards Nomination Form

- GSCTX Outstanding Partners Award: The form allows up to five volunteers to be nominated rather than two.
- GSCTX Service Unit Diamond Award: This award's criteria were updated by the GSCTX Volunteer Awards Committee after feedback that it was previously too vague. The questions in the nomination form align with the updated criteria.

Service Unit Awards Order Form

- Updated that all orders must be received at least four weeks prior to the pick-up or mail arrival date rather than the awards presentation date to ensure award order will be processed in time for the award ceremony.
- Added the Service Unit Tier Sizes PDF to the Service Unit Awards Allocation Chart section so service unit leadership will not have to look it up.
- Removed the Community Appreciation Certificate section was removed since the certificate can be found in the [**Volunteer Recognitions section**](#) of the Service Unit Resources page.
- Added Service Unit Recognitions Committee Member as a Role in Service Unit option to add more flexibility to which volunteers can submit the form.
- Added the following to the Award Order Section for clarification:
 - Referring to the Service Unit Outstanding Leader and Service Unit Outstanding Volunteer Awards: Consult the awards report that your service unit receives annually to know which of your volunteers have already earned these awards.
 - A volunteer receiving two service unit awards must have provided different service for different roles for each award. Volunteers may not earn more than two service unit awards per year.

Volunteer Awards Committee Application

- Clarified in the application that the first meeting was required.

Volunteer Awards Guide

- Pages 7 and 9: Added "of operations, programs, or membership and volunteer support" to clarify what we meant by service unit leads.
- Page 12: Updated GSCTX Service Unit Diamond Award criteria and examples.