

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (JROTC) NATIONAL TOP CADET COMPETITION

This is an annual competition with a monetary award for JROTC cadets. Each year, the top three JROTC cadets will receive the following awards:

1st Place -- \$2500; 2nd Place -- \$1500; 3rd Place -- \$1000

DEADLINE

National JROTC Top Cadet submissions submitted by the VVA State Council for review by the VVA Awards Committee **no later than April 1 of the current school year.**

A JROTC unit intent on nominating a cadet for this competition must contact their local VVA chapter or state council in **early March.**

PURPOSE:

1. To honor and recognize students enrolled in high school JROTC programs nationwide for their leadership, community service, and academic achievements.
2. To strengthen the legacy of Vietnam Veterans of America.
3. To bring attention to the honorable service to both country and community by veterans of the Vietnam War.

AWARD CRITERIA:

1. Cadet exemplifies core values of Vietnam Veterans of America: Advocacy, Meaningful Achievement, Integrity, Compassion, Camaraderie.
2. Cadet must have completed their second year of JROTC at the end of the current school year.
3. Cadet is in the upper 25 percent of his/her class academically and in JROTC achievements.

ADDITIONAL AWARD CRITERIA FOR TOP CADET COMPETITION:

1. The faculty and advisors of the JROTC unit are responsible for selecting their **Unit Top Cadet**
2. A narrative of the Cadet's accomplishments and reason for his/her selection, provided by the school. (250-500 words)
3. Personal essay of no-less-than five hundred words, written by the Top Cadet nominee, on the subject: **"Importance of Accounting for our POW/MIAs."**

CHAPTER & STATE COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT:

VVA chapters handle gathering and forwarding to their respective State Council the following information for their local JROTC unit(s) Top Cadet nominee(s):

- Cadet's name;
- JROTC Unit address and commander information;
- Selection narrative provided by school;
- Cadet's personal essay.

State Councils will recruit a selection committee from within their membership.

The Selection Committee members will review all Top Cadet submissions and choose their State's Top Cadet candidate.

The State Council Selection Committee will then send their ONE Top Cadet nominee to the national office by **April 1. (Only one cadet per state).**

Send the following to VVA Communications Director Mokie Porter at mporter@vva.org for submission to the VVA National Awards Committee:

- **Top Cadet narrative, provided by the school.**
- **Cadet's personal essay**
- **JROTC unit contact information**

JROTC UNITS WITHOUT AN AFFILIATED VVA LOCAL CHAPTER

- JROTC units without an active, local VVA chapter may submit Top Cadet nominations directly to their VVA State Council.
- Contact information for State Councils may be found at <https://vva.org/what-we-do/our-members/chapters/>, or by calling (301) 585-4000.

For questions or further information, please contact:

Dennis Howland, Public Affairs Committee Chair at Dennishowland46@hotmail.com, (801) 389-1893; or Mokie Porter at mporter@vva.org, (301) 585-4000, x. 146; or Kathleen Grathwol at kgrathwol@vva.org, (301) 585-4000, x. 178.