

Governor's Volunteer Service Award

County Award Coordinator Guide

2027

Administered by:

VOLUNTEERNC
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GVSA Eligibility Guidelines

1. Nominees must have been engaged in volunteer activities for a minimum of one year in North Carolina. Volunteer service performed outside the state is ineligible.

2. Nominees are ineligible if they receive compensation for their service.
    a. This includes service done for school credit, as a "loaned executive", or for other forms of compensation.

3. Nominees are ineligible if they are required to do the service.
    a. This includes service mandated by schools, the court, or other authorities.

4. Self-nominations are ineligible.

5. Family members may not nominate their family members.

6. Groups must be nominated by someone external to the group.

7. Previous award recipients from within the past 10 years are ineligible.

County Award Coordinator Checklist

- ☐ Solicit for local GVSA nominations via outreach to network, social media, website, and/or press release (sample in Guide).
- ☐ Develop an evaluation process for your county's GVSA nominations.
- ☐ Review nominations to determine all eligibility requirements have been met and appropriate volunteer service categories have been selected for all nominees.
    - NOTE: Online GVSA nominations will be submitted to VolunteerNC. During the GVSA nomination period, VolunteerNC will send nominations to their respective County Award Coordinators on a weekly basis. Paper nominations should be submitted directly to the County Award Coordinator.
- ☐ In partnership with a local GVSA review committee, evaluate nominations and recommend **up to 10 volunteers/groups** from your county as nominees for the GVSA; **one** of the nominees may also be recommended as a candidate for the Governor's Medallion Award.
- ☐ Submit the completed GVSA Recipient Nomination Form to VolunteerNC **by February 5, 2027**.
    - For any nominees who were nominated via a paper form (not an online submission through the VolunteerNC website), please attach an electronic copy of their nomination form to your email.
    - Email the form and any paper nominations to VolunteerNC at volunteernc@nc.gov with the subject line "(Your County Name) – 2027 Governor's Volunteer Service Award."

NOTE: GVSA certificates for recipients will be generated using the names as they are spelled on the GVSA Recipient Nomination Form. Please confirm the spelling. Unfortunately, due to the expense of the certificates, duplicates cannot be issued.

- ☐ After receiving confirmation from VolunteerNC in February, send a congratulatory letter or email to each GVSA recipient (sample in Guide) and notify their nominator.
- ☐ VolunteerNC will notify County Award Coordinators in mid-March if their nominee for the Governor's Medallion Award is selected.
    - If the nominee is selected, VolunteerNC will send the County Award Coordinator the award ceremony invitation, RSVP, and other important information to share with the award recipient.
- ☐ VolunteerNC will mail GVSA certificates and lapel pins to the County Award Coordinator in late March/early April to distribute to recipients.
    - It is encouraged that local recognition events be held during National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, 2027.
- ☐ VolunteerNC hosts the 2027 Governor's Medallion Award Ceremony in Raleigh in early May.

2027 GVSA Timeline

November 2, 2026 – February 5, 2027

- County Award Coordinators solicit nominations, conduct an evaluation process, **and select up to 10 recipients** for the Governor's Volunteer Service Award. Of the submitted, one may be recommended as a nominee for the Governor's Medallion Award.

January 29, 2027

- VolunteerNC closes the online GVSA nomination form at 5:00pm EST. Any last-minute nominations will be emailed to County Award Coordinators on the evening of January 29.

February 5, 2027

- **FINAL DEADLINE** for County Award Coordinators to submit the GVSA Recipient Nomination Form to VolunteerNC (see page 9 of this guide). All forms should be submitted electronically or postmarked by this date unless you have received special approval from VolunteerNC for a later time or date.

February 2027

- VolunteerNC confirms receipt of nominations from County Award Coordinators via email.

February – March 2027

- VolunteerNC reviews Governor's Medallion Award nominations and selects recipients.

- VolunteerNC notifies County Award Coordinators on the status of their Governor's Medallion Award nominees.

Late March/Early April 2027

- VolunteerNC mails GVSA certificates and lapel pins to County Award Coordinators for distribution to recipients.

April 2027

- VolunteerNC sends invitations for the Governor's Medallion Award ceremony and reception to County Award Coordinators who have a Medallion recipient.

- Local GVSA recognition events are held to honor recipients (National Volunteer Week is April 18-24).

May 2027

- Governor's Medallion Award ceremony and reception in Raleigh.

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE
LOCAL SOLICITATION FOR NOMINATIONS

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact:

Date: Phone:

2027 GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN

(Name of City) – Nominations are now being accepted for the 2027 Governor's Volunteer Service Award (GVSA).

The awards program, created by the Office of the Governor in 1979, recognizes North Carolina's most dedicated volunteers. Through the years, the Award has been bestowed on thousands of North Carolinians who have shown concern and compassion for their neighbors by volunteering in their local community.

Each county selects up to 10 individuals, businesses, or groups/teams to recognize for their outstanding contributions to their communities. One of the nominees may be nominated for the Governor's Medallion Award for Volunteer Service, which is awarded to the top 20-25 volunteers in the state. A local committee evaluates the nominations.

The online GVSA nomination form can be found at volunteernc.org.

Paper nomination forms are available in _____ County at the following location(s):

_____

_____

_____

Please return the completed paper nomination forms to:

_____

no later than _____, 2027.

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE
ANNOUNCING RECIPIENTS

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact:

Date: Phone:

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS IN _____ COUNTY RECOGNIZED BY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

(Name of City) – VolunteerNC, a division of the Office of the Governor, has presented the 2027 Governor's Volunteer Service Award to _____ recipients from _____ County. Award recipients are: __(list recipients)__.

The Governor's Volunteer Service Award honors North Carolinians who have shown concern and compassion for their neighbors by making a significant contribution to their community through volunteer service. The award was created by the Office of the Governor in 1979.

(Local award recipients and a description of their volunteer service is enclosed.)

SAMPLE CONGRATULATORY LETTER TO GVSA RECIPIENTS

Congratulations on being nominated and selected as a _____ County recipient of the 2027 Governor's Volunteer Service Award! Created in 1979, this award is an important part of the proud history and tradition of volunteerism and community service in our county and state.

Thank you for your volunteer service in _____ County. **(Insert a brief description of the recipient's volunteer service, acknowledging the organization with whom they volunteer and the number of years of service.)**

As a recipient of this award, you will receive a lapel pin and certificate of recognition from the Governor.

Once again, congratulations on being chosen for this prestigious statewide volunteer award! Should you have any questions about the award, please feel free to contact me at

_____.

Sincerely,

(County) Award Coordinator
Governor's Volunteer Service Award Program

2027 Governor's Volunteer Service Award

Recipient Nomination Form

County _____

In the spaces below, please provide the correct spelling of the names of the award nominees from your county. The name, as it is spelled below, will appear on the certificate and other recognition materials. Please type or print legibly. ***Duplicates will only be provided under special circumstances.***

Governor's Volunteer Service Award Nominees

Recipient #1 _____

Recipient #2 _____

Recipient #3 _____

Recipient #4 _____

Recipient #5 _____

Recipient #6 _____

Recipient #7 _____

Recipient #8 _____

Recipient #9 _____

Recipient #10 _____

Governor's Medallion Award Nominee (must be one of the above recipients)

_____

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH ANY PAPER AWARD NOMINATIONS

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL TO VOLUNTEERNC: February 5, 2027

2027 GVSA Nomination Form Information

- The GVSA nomination form is available online at www.volunteernc.org **(please encourage)**. Nominators can fill out the form online and then VolunteerNC will send the forms to the respective County Award Coordinators on a weekly basis.

- An electronic copy of the 2027 GVSA Nomination Form is available for downloading at www.volunteernc.org under the "Volunteer Awards" tab.