

## **RECEIVE AWARD MATERIALS FOR YOUR OFFICE**

The Award offers many informational and supplemental materials so the D.C. and district offices are prepared to introduce and educate young people on Congress' Award program. These are great handouts and talking points to bring when on the go in communities, visiting schools, or meeting families in D.C. Contact the national office to have brochures and materials mailed.

### **GET SOCIAL**

Connect constituents with the program through social media by creating Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter posts.

Join the conversation using #EarnedIt.

Rep. Kelly on Facebook

Rep. Hudson on Instagram

Rep. Wexton on Twitter

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Write a press release to promote the program or recognize recent awardees.

### Sen. Crapo Release

### **SEND A LETTER**

Congratulatory letters to Congressional Award Medalists in the district or letters of encouragement to schools reinforce support of youth participants and offer a lasting memento of their achievement.

#### Rep. Sean Maloney Letter

### **GIVE REMARKS ON THE FLOOR**

Speak on the House or Senate floor about the accomplishments of youth constituents. This will not only be a special memory for medalists, but it is also a great way to promote the program to fellow Members of the House or Senate.

### Rep. French Hill Speech

#### **PROMOTE LOCALLY & VISIT SCHOOLS**

Leverage schools, non-profits, youth and service groups, and community leaders with a footprint in the Member's district to stimulate enrollment growth. Incorporate The Congressional Award into talking points at local forums, town hall meetings, banquets, site visits, etc.

**School Promotion Toolkit** 



## **Digital Templates**

## #EarnedIt

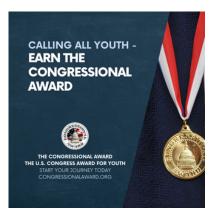
Service. Initiative. Achievement.

## **DOWNLOAD GRAPHICS & LOGOS**

Caption: [State or District] Youth - Take the Challenge and earn Congress' highest award for youth. Bring service, initiative, and achievement to your community and set a goal to earn The Congressional Award. Start your journey today.











### FOLLOW AND TAG THE AWARD ON SOCIAL MEDIA











## **Website Template**

Add The Congressional Award to your website under the services, youth or students tab.

Please link to <a href="https://www.congressionalaward.org">www.congressionalaward.org</a>

## The Congressional Award

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans. It is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive. The program is open to all 14- to 24-year-olds and participants earn Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Congressional Award Medals. Participants may register at 13 1/2 years old and are eligible to submit for the award at age 14. Gold Medals are presented at an annual ceremony every summer in Washington, D.C.

The Congressional Award focus on four areas:

- voluntary public service;
- personal development;
- physical fitness; and
- expedition/exploration activities.

Involvement in activities like 4-H, Scouting, aerobics, school and community sports, camping and other outdoor activities, high school clubs and activities, and other extracurricular activities can help you achieve medal status in the Congressional Award.

Earning the Award is a fun and interesting way to get more involved in something you already enjoy or something you'd like to try for the first time. You move at your own pace – on your own or with your friends. This is not an award for past accomplishments. Instead, you are honored for achieving your own challenging goals after registering for the program. Regardless of your situation, you can earn the Congressional Award. The Congressional Award has no minimum grade point average requirements. It accommodates young people with special needs or disabilities who are willing to take the challenge.

Start your journey today! To register for the award, visit The Congressional Award website <u>here</u>. Contact <u>information@congressionalaward.org</u> for any questions.



## **Newsletter Template**

The Congressional Award
Earn Congress' Award for Youth!

On November 16, 1979, Congress created The Congressional Award to encourage American youth to become involved in their local communities. It remains Congress' only charity and the highest award bestowed upon a young person from a member of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives.

The Congressional Award is attainable to any young person ages 14 – 24, regardless of ability or circumstance. Unlike many award programs, there is no nomination process, minimum grade point average, and it is not a competition. The award is not designed to recognize past achievements, but instead, encourages young people to set personally challenging goals for their immediate future.

An individual must set goals in four program areas to be considered for the award; Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration.

The program has six different levels – Bronze, Silver, and Gold Certificates and Bronze, Silver, Gold Medals. Each participant completes the program at his or her own pace. The award levels are cumulative, meaning the hours logged at lower levels carry into higher levels.

Once a young person is approved for a Congressional Award Medal, their Member of Congress will organize an award presentation to recognize the great achievement. The Congressional Award is a great way to bolster college applications, resumes, and extra-curricular activities and instill goal-setting habits and civic engagement.

If a young person is already active in organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, KEY Club, 4-H, American Red Cross, etc., those activities are often eligible for The Congressional Award.

There are currently 50,000 participants enrolled nationwide in The Congressional Award. Since its founding, participants have contributed 8.1 million hours of service to their communities.

Learn more about Congress' award for youth and register for the program at <a href="https://www.congressionalaward.org">www.congressionalaward.org</a>.

Join the conversation on social media to get a glimpse of the impact Congressional Award participants are making across the country.

Facebook.com/thecongressionalaward

Instagram.com/thecongressionalaward

Twitter.com/theaward

<u>LinkedIn.com/company/the-congressional-award</u>



The Impact of the Award

1,545
1,545
AWARDS EARNED
132 BRONZE CERTIFICATES
82 SILVER CERTIFICATES
51 GOLD CERTIFICATES
477 BRONZE MEDALS
320 SILVER MEDALS
483 GOLD MEDALS

2022
BY THE NUMBERS



376,104
HOURS OF
PHYSICAL
FITNESS

893
PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

423,074
HOURS OF
PERSONAL
DEVELOPMENT

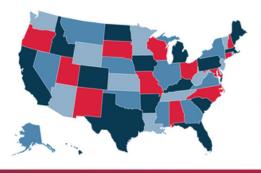
4,432
NEW
REGISTRATIONS

567,710 HOURS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

41%
AWARDEES WITH
STEM ACTIVITIES

339
CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICTS

50 STATES



WASHINGTON, D.C.
ARMED FORCES EUROPE
PUERTO RICE
MARIANA ISLANDS

988 ADULT MENTORS