



**Award nominations must be submitted and received to WFSE Headquarters by Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 5:00pm, at [wfse.org/convention2021](http://wfse.org/convention2021).**

## **Member Award Descriptions & Eligibility Requirements**

Washington Federation of State Employees

### **JOB ACTION OF THE YEAR AWARD**

This award recognizes a WFSE member(s) who organized the most creative and effective job action since the last convention. Locals, individual members and staff may nominate. A description of why the nominee should be considered for the award must be included. Include specific example(s) of creative and effective job actions organized by the nominee(s) since the previous convention.

### **HOWARD JORGENSEN ORGANIZING AWARD**

The Howard Jorgenson Organizing Award recognizes a WFSE member who has demonstrated outstanding skills in the area of organizing. The award is named after its first recipient, Howard Jorgenson, WFSE president from 1972 to 1997. Jorgenson passed away in 2016. Locals, individual members and staff may nominate union members, shop stewards, statewide and local officers, staff and other activists. Nominees must have demonstrated outstanding skills in the area of organizing. Include a description of why the nominee should be considered for the award. Include example(s) of: organizing activities; building unity within a bargaining unit or Local Union; improving the union's community image; encouraging other members to participate; working for group welfare and union's goals, etc.

### **ROSELLA CHARVET LEADERSHIP AWARD**

This award recognizes members who have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills. Locals and individual members may nominate union members, shop stewards, statewide and local officers, staff and other activists. Include a description of why the nominee should be considered for the award. Include examples of: active union participation building consensus; unity and solidarity; teamwork; inspirational acts; improving union's community image; encouraging other members to participate; defending worker's rights; working for group welfare and union's goals, etc.

### **MEDAL OF VALOR AWARDS**

These awards recognize WFSE members who have demonstrated bravery and valor. Recognition may be given to a member where the evidence presented to the Medal of Valor Committee shows that they demonstrated bravery and/or heroism by knowingly performing conspicuous acts of courage under life-threatening circumstances so that others might live. *Two Medal of Valor Awards may be conferred.* One award is earmarked for a Public Safety Officer member of Council 28 and one is open for a Non-Public Safety Officer member. A description of why the nominee should be considered for the award must be included. Include specific example(s) of valor since the previous WFSE convention.

### **LIFESAVING AWARD**

This award recognizes a member who acted during an emergency with the intent of saving a life or helping the injured. Recognition may be given to a member where the evidence presented to the Medal of Valor Committee shows that they acted during an emergency with the intent to save a life or help the injured. The committee will consider resourcefulness and demonstrated skill in rescue methods. A description of why the nominee should be considered for the award must be included. Include specific example(s) of lifesaving since the previous WFSE convention.

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## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

This award recognizes a member's significant or outstanding act of service of exceptional character. Recognition may be given to a member where the evidence presented to the Medal of Valor Committee shows that a significant or outstanding act of service of exceptional character was performed. The action taken need not involve attempts of rescue or risk to self, but should exhibit behavior far above and beyond the expectations of their position in the service of others. A description of why the nominee should be considered for the award must be included. Include specific example(s) of meritorious service since the previous WFSE convention.

## **LAURIE MERTA STEWARD OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Laurie Merta Steward of the Year Award is presented to a WFSE shop steward who has demonstrated outstanding skills to help members and to build up the union in the workplace. Locals or individual members may submit a nomination. The nominee must be an outstanding steward and a member in good standing. Include a description of why the nominee should be considered for the award, such as keeping members informed about union issues, organizing in support of the contract, recruiting and mentoring new stewards, representing members, enforcing the contract, building membership power, and/or advocating for workers' rights.

## **RISING STAR STEWARD AWARD**

Do you know a member who has excelled in building our union through their fire and passion as a new steward? We're looking for the "Rising Stars" of our union who will lead us into the future and help make our union stronger. Consider the following as you nominate a steward that you feel exemplifies the title of "Rising Star": They're building and strengthening our union by defending our contract and educating our co-workers about their rights; they're representing co-workers in informal discussions with management to resolve workplace issues; they're organizing co-workers around workplace issues and concerns; they're promoting union values, principles, and ideals in the workplace; they're engaging in political activities to address workplace concerns; they're reaching out to new employees to share information about our union, encouraging participation, and collecting union membership cards; they're sharing information, educating, and communicating accurately to members, other stewards, and locals; they're a strong, enthusiastic, positive, professional, and creative face of WFSE. Please provide in detail why your nominee is a Rising Star and how they have made a difference in your local, workplace, or union at large.

## **PEOPLE AWARD**

This award will be presented to the local with the most PEOPLE members. Nominations are not needed for this award.