

# 2020 NOMINATION FORM INFORMATION

*The Governor's Points of Light Awards began in 2001 and are organized and presented by Nevada Volunteers, the Governor's Commission on Service.*

## **Nevada Volunteers' Mission:**

The mission of Nevada Volunteers is to foster a statewide culture of service & volunteerism by:

- Building a collaborative statewide infrastructure that supports existing national service and volunteer efforts across the state;
- Increasing and improving volunteer and national service opportunities; and
- Improving national service and volunteer management and increasing retention.

## **About the Nomination & Review Process**

- The Judging Chair is typically one of the current Commission Members who has experience with the judging process.
- Judges are selected from the applications received and represent northern, southern and rural Nevada, as well as corporations, nonprofit organizations and volunteer management programs.
- Judges are committed to confidentiality and are required to recuse themselves from judging a nominee when there is a conflict of interest.
- Once the nomination period has closed, all nominations are reviewed by staff to make sure they have been submitted in the correct category and have all required fields completed.
- The nominations are grouped by category and distributed to the judges based on their area of expertise or geographic location.
- Each nomination is ranked on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high) based on the criteria of Excellence in Volunteerism, Commitment to Community, Benefit to Community or State. Several categories have additional criteria of Use of Resources, Longevity and Inspiration.
- The scores are reviewed by the Judging Chair and the top 3 scores/finalists are identified in each category.
- Staff completes 3 reference calls on each finalist
- Finalists are notified
- Nominators of non-finalists are notified



The Governor's Points of Light Awards recognize individuals, non-profit organizations, corporate volunteer programs, community organizations and National Service Members for their dedication, commitment and determination in promoting and supporting volunteerism throughout Nevada. Nominating an individual or organization for an award is an excellent way to recognize their work, bring your community together around an effort, and celebrate volunteerism on a statewide level.

Award recipients will be honored at an awards luncheon in Las Vegas, Nevada in April 2020, exact date and location to be determined.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Any individual from southern, northern and rural Nevada, non-profit organization volunteer program, corporate volunteer program, National Service Member or community organization in the state of Nevada can be nominated.

## **ELIGIBLE**

Individual nominees must be Nevada residents  
Group nominations must be Nevada organizations  
Service must have been completed in the state of Nevada

## **INELIGIBLE**

Individuals who receive a stipend or salary, with the exception of National Service Members are not eligible.

2018 Governor's Points of Light recipients and finalists are not eligible to be a recipient or finalist in the same category until 2021.  
Nevada Volunteers Commission members are not eligible.

## **AWARD CATEGORIES**

Nominations must be submitted individually for each category:

Individual Volunteer  
Individual Youth Volunteer  
National Service Member of the Year  
Non-Profit/Community Volunteer Program  
Business/Corporate Volunteer Program  
Community Leadership Award  
Lifetime Achievement Award

**Contact us:** (775) 825-1900  
[info@nevadavolunteers.org](mailto:info@nevadavolunteers.org)  
[www.nevadavolunteers.org](http://www.nevadavolunteers.org)



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **I nominated someone last year but they didn't win. Can I nominate them again?**

2018 Award recipients and finalists are ineligible to be a finalist or recipient in the same category until 2021. If you are nominating someone again, think about how you might be able to strengthen the nomination. The award decisions are difficult and many outstanding volunteers and organizations are not selected

### **May the nomination be a surprise?**

Please let the nominee know you have nominated them for an award by the time you submit the nomination. This will help alleviate confusion on the part of the nominee and help everyone understand the process.

### **Will you contact the references I listed?**

Yes. If your nominee is selected as a finalist, a phone interview will be conducted with all references listed.

### **Does it help if more than one person nominates a volunteer?**

No. Only one nomination will be considered for any individual or group. Multiple nominations will not add extra weight to the decisions.

### **Can I submit a nomination for a group of volunteers?**

The new Community Leadership Award category is designed for any service group, faith-based group, civic group and/or family group that doesn't have the 501 c 3 status of a nonprofit organization.

### **Can I submit additional documentation?**

No. The judging committee will make their decision based solely on the information submitted in the nomination form.

### **May I nominate myself?**

No

### **What are some tips for writing the narrative answers to create a winning nomination?**

Do your best to describe the service that the person or organization has provided. The judging committee would like to see specific examples and anecdotes of what has been accomplished and how. Try to include measurable achievements, such as how many people accessed services, how many children were tutored, how many years the program has been in operation, how long the volunteer has been active, etc. Think about what makes this volunteer or organization unique and tell about that. The judging committee makes their decision based solely upon what you send in your nomination. It's up to you to tell why this person or program is worthy of recognition.

### **Are finalists and recipients required to attend the awards ceremony?**

Yes. Nevada Volunteers reserves the right to select an alternate recipient should the nominee be unable to accept the award in person. Organizations and/or individuals being nominated should notify Nevada Volunteers if travel assistance is requested. Extenuating circumstances that prevent a finalist from attending may be taken into consideration and should be brought to the attention of Nevada Volunteers.

All finalists and recipients will receive one luncheon ticket at no charge. Nevada Volunteers invites the current governor to the awards event to recognize all finalists and recipients but attendance by the governor is not guaranteed and he may send a designee.

### Submitting Nominations

The online nomination form requires:

- Nominator and nominee contact information
- Information on organization where volunteer service is conducted or program is based
- Category of the nomination
- Contact information for three references
- Narrative Sections on: Excellence in Volunteerism, Commitment to Community, Benefit to Community or State, Use of Resources, Longevity and Inspiration

All nominations must be submitted online at: <http://bit.ly/2017GPOL>

Nominations will open on Monday, October 7, 2019 and must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Saturday, November 30, 2019.

Questions? Email us at [info@nevadavolunteers.org](mailto:info@nevadavolunteers.org)

(Nevada Volunteers cannot respond to queries regarding the status of a specific nomination or provide advice on completing the nomination form)