



## **Silver Helmet<sup>®</sup> Awards**

AMVETS' most prestigious award, the Silver Helmet, is presented annually to distinguished Americans who have made significant contributions in the fields of Americanism, congressional service, civil service, peace, defense and rehabilitation. AMVETS' own "AMVET of the Year" is also awarded a Silver Helmet at the awards presentation.

The Silver Helmet itself is a silver-plated replica of the World War II GI helmet and is crafted exclusively for AMVETS. The Silver Helmet Award, "The Veteran's Oscar," is presented in conjunction with the spring National Executive Committee meeting.

Silver Helmet nominations originate at AMVETS posts and should be forwarded to the national headquarters four weeks prior to the national convention with the exception of AMVET of the Year nominations, which must be received six weeks prior to the convention.

Nominations may also be hand-carried to the national convention by members of the Honors and Awards Committee composed of all past national commanders and the last five AMVET of the Year recipients. This committee reviews the nominations, selects the winners and announces them to the delegates at the convention. By vote, the delegates ratify the committee's recommendations.

## ® Silver Helmet Award Descriptions

The National Honors and Awards Committee does not have the opportunity to review the original nomination documents. They rely on photocopies. To make the copies as clear as possible, we would request that your nomination and any additional documents be submitted on 8½ x 11 paper. If you are planning on submitting magazine or newspaper articles, please make sure that they are legible photocopies of the article(s)—originals are not required. And, if you are submitting photographs, please ensure that they are completely secured to an 8½ x 11 piece of paper.

<b>AMERICANISM</b>		<b>CONGRESSIONAL</b>	
❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of an American who has made the most outstanding contributions to strengthen Americanism	❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of a member of Congress for exceptional service to the American people, including veterans
❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet® Award	❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet® Award
❖ <b>Frequency</b>	Annual	❖ <b>Frequency</b>	As warranted
❖ <b>Competition</b>	Any American citizen	❖ <b>Competition</b>	Any member of the United States Senate or House of Representatives
❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS or the National Honors and Awards Committee	❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS or the National Honors and Awards Committee
❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements</li> <li>➤ Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>	❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements</li> <li>➤ Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>
<b>❖ PEACE</b>		<b>❖ DEFENSE</b>	
❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of a person who has, within the past year, made exceptional contributions to the cause of world peace	❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of a person who has made exceptional contributions to the defense of the United States and the Free World
❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet® Award	❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet® Award
❖ <b>Frequency</b>	As warranted	❖ <b>Frequency</b>	As warranted
❖ <b>Competition</b>	Unlimited	❖ <b>Competition</b>	Unlimited
❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS or the National Honors and Awards Committee	❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS or the National Honors and Awards Committee
❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements</li> <li>➤ Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>	❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements</li> <li>➤ Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>

❖ REHABILITATION		CIVIL SERVANT OF THE YEAR	
❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of a person who has, within the past year, made exceptional contributions in the field of rehabilitation of disabled persons	❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of a career employee, at any level of government, for outstanding public service
❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet <sup>®</sup> Award	❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet <sup>®</sup> Award
❖ <b>Frequency</b>	Annual	❖ <b>Frequency</b>	As warranted
❖ <b>Competition</b>	Unlimited	❖ <b>Competition</b>	Any career government employee, with a minimum of four years' service who has provided evidence of sincere interest in performing his or her duties; selection may be based on the nominee's accomplishments for a 1-year period, or over an entire civil service career
❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS Volunteer or the National Honors and Awards Committee	❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS or the National Honors and Awards Committee
❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>	❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Personal and employment data, including name, address, date and place of birth, name and location of employing agency or department, title and grade, date of entry into federal civil service</li> <li>➤ Resume of accomplishments including civil service activities or organizations in which nominee has participated, and justification of nomination—200 words or more; documentary proof may also be submitted</li> </ul>

### AMVET OF THE YEAR

❖ <b>Purpose</b>	Recognition of the AMVET Volunteer who has contributed most to the welfare of the organization nationwide
❖ <b>Nature</b>	Silver Helmet <sup>®</sup> Award
❖ <b>Frequency</b>	Annual
❖ <b>Competition</b>	Any member of AMVETS; the "AMVET of the Year" will be selected by an entity independent of the AMVETS organizational structure, as determined by the national commander and the national executive director
❖ <b>Nomination Source</b>	Any unit of AMVETS
❖ <b>Nomination Method</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Completed nomination form (enclosed)</li> <li>➤ Detailed biographical information on nominee's personal and professional background</li> <li>➤ Comprehensive review of nominee's achievements</li> <li>➤ Summary, justifying nomination</li> </ul>