



SOCIETY OF AMERICAN INDIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES (SAIGE) 2024 MILITARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

1. Purpose: The SAIGE Military Meritorious Service Award is a federal government-level award that honors the service and accomplishments of Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve service members, and military veterans in government service who, during the award period, made significant contributions in the following four areas:

- a. Promoted a positive image of American Indians/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) within government service (Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or governmental agency or entity. See Transmittal form directions for examples).
- b. Contributed to and encouraged a greater understanding of the AI/AN culture through both on- and off-duty activities.
- c. Supported Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or governmental agency or entity interactions with AI/AN people, tribes, events, or activities.
- d. Reflected attributes epitomizing the best qualities and core values of their respective military service branch, government, or agency (Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or governmental agency or entity).

2. Award:

Eligibility:

- a. Current military members (Active Duty, Reserve, or National Guard).
- b. Veterans employed within government (Federal, State, Local, Tribal, or governmental agency or entity).

Note: This is a one-time-only award. All previous award winners are ineligible for nomination *unless* the nominee has left military service and is now a veteran employed by a federal, state, local, or tribal government, tribal services, or governmental agency or entity.

Award Period of Performance: 1 January 2023 thru 31 December 2023

Submission Due Date: 8 April 2024

Award Announcement Date: 1 May 2024

Award Presentation Date: 6 June 2024 at the Northern Quest Resort, Spokane, WA

SAIGE Point of Contact: Mr. Edward Blauvelt, SAIGE Warrior Society Director, at edward.blauvelt@saige.org or edward.blauvelt@us.af.mil

3. Scoring:

The Award Committee will choose a maximum of 10 award winners from the nomination submissions. The previous year's winners and SAIGE Warrior Society Vice Director will score the nomination packages. The SAIGE Warrior Society Director will only cast a tie-breaker vote if needed.

Award winners or their representatives will receive the award at the SAIGE Warrior Society ceremony in June 2024 during the SAIGE National Training Program in Spokane, WA.



4. Nomination Criteria: All nominations must demonstrate the nominee's contributions to Native American culture and investments in inclusion and diversity within their workforce.

a. Nominees submitted must contribute significantly to their service branch, agency, or tribal mission. All interactions or contributions need to reflect uniqueness above the expected levels of an employee of their position. The four areas scored are:

1. Promoted a positive image of AI/AN within the government.
2. Contributions to a greater understanding of AI/AN on and off duty.
3. Supported AI/AN events or activities.
4. Reflected core values and qualities of their military branch or government agency.

b. Nominees submitted for personal actions on and off-duty activities, with specific examples of these actions. Please explain the impact of the nominee's actions and how they promoted a positive image for American Indians and Alaskan Natives while upholding their service branch core values.

5. Nomination Packages Requirements and Staffing: Nomination packages must be submitted electronically through each service branch's staffing channels (at least one command level higher than the nominee's level or from their Tribal Chairperson/Council). Send all documents in Adobe .pdf format and pictures in .jpg format (no larger than 2mb in size) to edward.blauvelt@saige.org.

a. Submissions will be in Adobe PDF format with 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch left and 1-inch right margins.

b. Nomination packages must include:

1. Tab 1 - Award Nomination Transmittal Form (attached.) File name: *Rank Name Transmittal.pdf*

Note: Veterans must have a supervisor verify their nominee's discharge status as Honorable and attached DD 214 to package without Social Security Numbers.

2. Tab 2 - Award narrative, using criteria in paragraph 3, describing, in not more than two pages, the nominee's accomplishments warranting the recognition specific to the award. File name: *Rank Name Narrative.pdf*.

3. Tab 3 - A single-spaced biography of the nominee not to exceed one page, if applicable, including the nominee's tribal membership or AI/AN ancestry. File name: *Rank Name biography.pdf*.

4. Tab 4 - An award citation highlighting the nominee's accomplishments, not to exceed twelve lines. File name: *Rank Name Citation.pdf*.

5. Tab 5 - Adverse screening memorandum (signed by a nominating official). File name: *Rank Name Adverse Review memo.pdf*.

6. Tab 6 - A digital head and shoulders photograph of the nominee (.jpg format/2mb max) File name: *Rank Name Picture.jpg*.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Blauvelt', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Edward J. Blauvelt

Director of the Warrior Society

Society of American Indian Government Employees