



SOCIETY OF AMERICAN INDIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES (SAIGE) 2025 MILITARY/VETERANS MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Open to all Active Duty, Reservists, Guardsmen and Veterans in Government Service

1. Purpose: The Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) Military/Veterans Meritorious Service Award honors American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) military members and veteran civilian employees in public service by organizing around common issues and leveraging collective strength to address workplace and community challenges. This award recognizes the exceptional service and achievements of Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve service members, and military veterans in government service during the specified award period. Recipients of the award are expected to attend the recognition ceremony in concurrence with their commands and in compliance with mission requirements. The recipient's unit is responsible for paying related per diem and travel costs.

2. Award Details:

Eligibility:

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

Note: This award is one-time only. Previous recipients are ineligible unless they have transitioned from military service to a veteran status and are currently employed by a government entity.

Period of Performance: January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

Submission Due Date: April 14, 2025

Announcement Date: May 2, 2025

Presentation Date and Location: June 5, 2025, at Gila River Wild Horse Pass Resort in Chandler, AZ.

Each DoD Component/Agency may submit their nomination packages directly to Mr. Edward Blauvelt, SAIGE Warrior Society Director, at edward.blauvelt@saige.org or edward.blauvelt@us.af.mil. The Warrior Society will evaluate all submissions and make final selections, with only one winner per agency.

3. Scoring: The Award Committee will select up to 10 winners from the nominations. The previous year's winners and SAIGE Warrior Society Vice Directors will score the nomination packages. The SAIGE Warrior Society Director will only cast a tie-breaking vote if necessary. Award recipients or their representatives will receive their awards during the SAIGE Warrior Society ceremony at the SAIGE National Training Program in Chandler, AZ.

4. Nomination Criteria: Nominations must highlight the nominee's contributions to promote inclusion of Native American cultural visibility and values within their workforce. Specifically, nominees must demonstrate significant contributions in these areas to their service branch, agency, or tribal mission that reflects a level of performance above the expected standard for their position.

5. Nomination Package Requirements: Nomination packages must be submitted electronically through each service branch, agency, or tribal's staffing channels (at least one command level higher than the nominee's level, or through their Director or Tribal Chairperson/Council Leader).

- a. Submissions should be in Adobe PDF format.



b. Nomination packages must include the following six (6) attachments:

Tab 1 - Award Nomination Transmittal Form: This form can be used for staffing to help eliminate extra paperwork. File name: Rank_Name_Transmittal.pdf Note: Veterans must have a supervisor verify their Honorable discharge status and include a copy of the nominee's DD 214 (please mask Social Security Numbers).

Tab 2 - Award Narrative: No more two pages, using 10 or 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins.

a. First paragraph: Describe the nominee's current duties and responsibilities epitomizing the best qualities and core values of their respective service branch, agency, or tribe.

b. Following paragraphs: Provide specific examples and impacts of the nominee's actions regarding:

i. How the nominee promoted a positive image of AI/AN within government service.

ii. How the nominee contributed to and encouraged a greater understanding of the AI/AN culture through either on- and off-duty events, actions, or activities the nominee led, made significant contributions to, or participated in.

iii. How the nominee assisted in addressing discrimination or created opportunities for AI/AN people, tribes, events, or activities within any governmental space.

Save the narrative file name: Rank_Name_Narrative.pdf

Tab 3 - Nominee's Biography: A single-spaced biography not to exceed one page, including the nominee's tribal membership or AI/AN ancestry (if applicable). Save the narrative file name: Rank_Name_Biography.pdf

Tab 4 - Award Citation: A citation highlighting the nominee's accomplishments, not to exceed twelve lines, in landscape format. Save the narrative file name: Rank_Name_Citation.pdf

Tab 5 - Adverse Screening Memorandum: Signed by a nominating official or commander. Save the narrative file name: Rank_Name_Adverse_Review_Memo.pdf

Tab 6 - Photograph: A digital head and shoulders photograph of the nominee (jpg format, 2MB max). Save the narrative as file name: Rank_Name_Picture.jpg

c. Send all documents and photographs to edward.blauvelt@saige.org or edward.blauvelt@us.af.mil

Please ensure all nomination packages adhere to the outlined requirements and submission guidelines above.

Edward J. Blauvelt
SAIGE Warrior Society Director
Society of American Indian Government Employees