

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**Reference Manual #60: Aviation Management**

**Chapter 18 – Aviation Awards Program**

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Prepared by the Branch of Aviation

Reviewed by the Chief, Division of Fire and Aviation Management

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Approved by the Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection

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# 18 Aviation Awards Program

## 18.1 NPS Aviation Awards Program

The NPS Aviation Awards Program recognizes five areas of excellence in aviation. These awards shall be awarded from the NPS Aviation Branch. The NASM will annually provide NPS aviation management personnel with nomination documents and timelines.

### 18.1.1 Wright Brothers Aviation Safety Award

*Standard:* Recognizes an individual or organization who proactively promotes an open-minded attitude in the prevention of aviation mishaps and accidents, works diligently to correct and improve aviation safety deficiencies and communicates the actions and results to others.

*Criteria:* Open to any individual or organization in the aviation community who shows exemplary qualities in aviation safety.

*Procedures:* Nominations will include a narrative of purpose for recognition. Nominations from the field or RAM will include the individual(s) name, park, and contact information. A complete nomination package will be submitted to the NASM for consideration with the NAO and RAMs.

*Frequency:* Unlimited number to be given throughout the year.

### 18.1.2 NPS Aviation All-Hazard Response Award

*Standard:* Recognizes an individual, crew, or program who through professional interactions with coworkers, cooperators, and patients while rendering all risk services promotes innovation, professionalism, and advancements in policy, procedures, techniques, and equipment to further aviation All-Hazard programs.

*Criteria:* Open to any individual or organization in the aviation community who while performing their duties as an aviation crewmember, rescuer, care provider, or employee for the organization demonstrates exemplary qualities in All-Hazard response missions.

*Procedures:* Nominations will include a narrative of purpose for recognition. Nominations from the field or RAM will include the individual(s) name, park, and contact information. A complete nomination package will be submitted to the NASM for consideration with the NAO and RAMs.

*Frequency:* To be awarded to one individual, crew, or program, once a year.

### 18.1.3 Excellence in Mentorship Aviation Award

*Standard:* Recognizes an individual or organization who, through training and mentorship of aviation personnel goes above and beyond normal expectations to assist others in developing their personal or professional aviation skills and knowledge.

*Criteria:* Open to any individual or organization in the aviation community who exhibits these qualities.

*Procedures:* Nominations will include a narrative of purpose for recognition. Nominations from the field or RAM will include the individual(s) name, park, and contact information. A complete nomination package will be submitted to the NASM for consideration with the NAO and RAMs.

*Frequency:* Unlimited number to be given throughout the year.

#### **18.1.4 NPS Aviation Professional of the Year**

*Standard:* Recognizes an individual who has performed mission(s) of significant consequence or valor or has actively promoted the advancement or recognition of an NPS aviation program, mission, or service.

*Criteria:* Open to all government personnel both within and outside of the NPS, civilians, and contractors.

*Procedures:* Nominations will include a narrative of purpose for recognition. Nominations from the field or RAM will include the individual(s) name, park, and contact information. A complete nomination package will be submitted to the NASM for consideration with the NAO and RAMs.

*Frequency:* To be awarded to one individual, once a year.

#### **18.1.5 NPS Aviation Lifetime Achievement Award**

*Standard:* Recognizes an individual who has provided significant support for NPS aviation operations for at least 10 years.

*Criteria:* Open to all government personnel both within and outside of the NPS, civilians, and contractors.

*Procedures:* Nominations will include a narrative of purpose for recognition. Nominations from the field or RAM will include the individual(s) name, park, and contact information. A complete nomination package will be submitted to the NASM for consideration with the NAO and RAMs.

*Frequency:* Unlimited number to be given throughout the year.

## **18.2 DOI Aviation Awards Program**

NPS will use the DOI Safety Award qualification standards and procedures to recognize aviation safety practices, per [352 DM 4, Aviation Safety Awards Program](#). The DOI aviation safety award has its standard, criteria, and type of award respectively identified in policy.

### **18.2.1 Award for In-Flight Action**

The award is established to recognize onboard flight crewmembers, aircrew members, and passengers who, through outstanding airmanship, courage, or other action, materially contribute to the successful recovery from an emergency, or who minimize or prevent aircraft damage or injury to personnel during a DOI aviation-related occurrence. The award may also be presented to non-DOI personnel.

**18.2.2 Award for Safe Flying**

Recognizes pilots who have distinguished themselves by flying accident-free for specific periods of time.

**18.2.3 Award for Significant Contribution to Aviation Safety**

Recognizes an individual, group, or organization for significant contribution to aviation safety or aircraft accident prevention within DOI. This award is restricted to DOI employees.

**18.2.4 Department of the Interior Award for Outstanding Contributions to Aviation Safety**

Recognizes any individual or group, including other agencies and non-government individuals, for outstanding contribution to aviation safety or aircraft accident prevention.

**18.2.5 Airwards**

This award is established to provide timely recognition to any individual who has demonstrated positive behavior or actions promoting DOI aviation safety such as correcting a hazardous situation, submitting a recommendation for improvements, or repeatedly supporting aviation safety. See the [Airward News](#) website for more information,