

## **173D Airborne Brigade Association Medal**

### **Purpose:**

Provide information regarding award of the 173d Airborne Brigade Association Medal (Sky Soldier Medal) and certificate presented to deserving Sky Soldiers and Cadets of Senior and Junior ROTC programs.

### **Award Description:**

The 173d Airborne Brigade Association, Board of Directors approved the creation of the 173d Airborne Brigade Association Medal at a meeting in June 2010. The Medal was designed with the ribbon using the colors of the 173d Patch with 3 vertical stripes representing the 3 combat theaters of operation the Brigade has been involved in. The yellow color represents Vietnam, tan Iraq and black Afghanistan. The medal displays the Logo of the association with the nickname and Airborne Motto. The back of the Medal uses the distinctive unit insignia of the Brigade in Vietnam (173d Airborne Brigade, the 1st Royal Australian Regiment and the Royal New Zealand Artillery) and the Combat badges earned by Sky Soldiers of the Brigade.

### **Eligibility:**

- a. Sky Soldiers who have received the Medal of Honor are automatically eligible. Presentation will take place at a time and location set by the recipient.
- b. Sky Soldiers currently assigned or have been assigned to the Brigade.
- c. Gold Star Family members (Father, Mother, Siblings and spouse) of a Sky Soldier.
- d. Cadets currently enrolled in a ROTC/JROTC program at university or high school level.

### **Criteria:**

- a. The Sky Soldier Medal may be awarded to a Sky Soldier who demonstrates genuine patriotism to our Nation and lives by the values and morals set by Sky Soldier of our great Brigade. In addition the medal may also be awarded to Sky Soldiers for their continued superior service to the Brigade, Association, their community and our Nation.
- b. The award may be recommended to Cadets of ROTC/JROTC programs.
- c. Accordingly, the award should go to the most distinguished Cadet of a given ROTC/JROTC unit. Cadets recommended for the award should have distinguished themselves as a Cadet who sets the example in keeping with the traditions and ideals of the 173d Airborne Brigade.
- d. Cadets should be proficient in subject areas of Military History, Knowledge, Leadership, and must be dedicated to serving the Nation and community.
- e. The Sky Soldier Medal is not limited to Army Cadets. Navy, Air Force, and Marine ROTC/JROTC programs are also eligible. Which Cadet is recommended for the award is determined by the Senior Instructor (JROTC) or Professor of Military Science (ROTC) at the Cadet's respective school.
- f. Selection criteria guidelines for JROTC/ROTC Cadets are listed below:

1. Cadets recommended for the award should display patriotism and continued service to their community and excellent scholastic achievement.
2. GPA 3.0 or above
3. Displays patriotism to the United States
4. Cadet should be “The best of the best. A Cadet is eligible to receive the award one time in a JROTC program or college level ROTC program. A JROTC cadet is again eligible to receive the award when they enter the ROTC program.
5. Team Player
6. Bearing and common courtesy
7. Participates beyond requirements
8. Is respected by other Cadets
9. Possesses Leadership qualities
10. Sets the Example for other Cadets to follow
11. Takes personal pride in the uniform
12. Individuals awarded the Sky Soldier Medal must be a person who represents our Brigade and brings credit to our Country and way of life.

**Award Recommendations:**

- a. Any Sky Soldier having knowledge of an act, achievement, or service believed to warrant the award may make a recommendation.  
Recommendations for the award should be submitted through the a local chapter for a request of the medal set.
- b. A Sky Soldier may not recommend themselves for the award.

**Approval Authority:**

- a. The Board of Directors is the Approval Authority for Sky Soldiers and Gold Star members receiving the Sky Soldiers Medal. The award presentation for these individuals will be at the most convenient Sky Soldier Annual Reunion.
- b. Approval authority for ROTC/JROTC Cadets receiving the award will be the local Sky Soldier Chapter.

**Presentation of Award:**

The award may be presented by any Sky Soldier from a local Chapter closest to the recipient.

**Award Distribution:**

To request the Sky Soldier Medal contact Texas Chapter 13, President Rey Rios.  
email: jumpmaster173d@gmail.com

**Cost of Award:**

Cost of each medal set is \$15 plus shipping and handling.