

2–23. Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal

a. The MOVSM was established by EO 12830, 9 January 1993, as amended by EO 13286, 28 February 2003. It may be awarded to Servicemembers of the Armed Forces of the United States and their RCs who, subsequent to 31 December 1992, perform outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct, and consequential nature.

b. To qualify for award of the MOVSM a Servicemember's volunteer service must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Be to the civilian community, to include the military Family community.
- (2) Be significant in nature and produce tangible results.
- (3) Reflect favorably on the Army and DOD.
- (4) Be of a sustained and direct nature.

c. There is no specific time period to qualify for award of the MOVSM; however, volunteer service must exceed 3 years and/or 500 hours of service. Approval authorities will ensure the service to be honored merits the special recognition afforded by this medal. The MOVSM is intended to recognize exceptional community support over time and not a single act or achievement. Further, it is intended to honor direct support of community activities. For the purpose of this award, attending membership meetings or social events of a community service group is not considered qualifying service, while manning a community crisis action telephone line is considered qualifying service.

d. Approval authority for award of the MOVSM will be commanders (overseas and CONUS) serving in the rank of lieutenant colonel (LTC/O–5) or higher. Before the recommendation is forwarded to the award approval authority, the recommender must certify that the Servicemember meets the eligibility criteria for award of the MOVSM. Substantiating documentation, such as record of hours contributed, letters or certificates from activity supervisors, or other proof of the Servicemember's volunteer services may be attached as enclosures to the recommendation.

e. The rules for processing award of the MOVSM are as follows:

- (1) Recommendations for award of the MOVSM will be submitted through official military channels using memorandum format. The MOVSM template is available at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/tagd/awards/%20AND%20Decorations%20Templates>.
- (2) The Soldier's commander will certify that the eligibility requirements have been met and that the service was honorable throughout the award period.
- (3) When contemplating award of the MOVSM, the following issues should be taken into consideration:
 - (a) Servicemember must be performing services on a voluntary basis, not detailed or tasked.
 - (b) Services performed may not be part of any military mission (for example a unit project), and may not result in any personal gain for the Servicemember.
- (4) No more than one MOVSM will be awarded to any Servicemember. For subsequent periods of community service justifying award of the medal, a bronze service star will be worn on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal (see para 6–8 for further information on the bronze service star).
- (5) The MOVSM may be awarded posthumously.
- (6) The MOVSM will be worn immediately after the HSM.
- (7) The MOVSM is categorized as a service medal and, as such, no orders are issued to announce its approval. In addition, there is no award certificate for the MOVSM.
- (8) The MOVSM is not authorized for award to foreign personnel.