

ARMY DECORATIONS HIERARCHY

As of 09-19-18

The Institute of Heraldry

Department of the Army

MILITARY DECORATIONS

CIVILIAN SERVICE DECORATIONS

PUBLIC SERVICE DECORATIONS

Medal	Description	Authority	Medal	Description	Authority	Medal	Description	Authority	Medal	Description	Authority
	Defense Distinguished Service Medal	Secretary of Defense only		Distinguished Service Medal	Chief of Staff of the Army		Distinguished Civilian Service Medal	Secretary of the Army		Distinguished Public Service Medal	Secretary of the Army
	Defense Superior Service Medal	DCMO for DoD & CJCS for Joint Commands		Legion of Merit (Superior-Level)	MACOM Commanders LTG & above		Superior Civilian Service Medal	Commanders of ACOMs, ASCCs, and DRUs; members of the SES serving as the director of a DRU; and the AASA for HQDA		Superior Public Service Medal	Secretary of the Army
	Defense Meritorious Service Medal	DCMO, Dir Joint Staff & CoComs		Meritorious Service Medal	Commanders MG & above		Meritorious Civilian Service Medal	Commanders (Major General and above or civilian equivalent)		Meritorious Public Service Medal	Commanders of ACOMs, ASCCs, and DRUs; members of the SES serving as the director of a DRU; and the AASA for HQDA
	Joint Service Commendation Medal	O-7 or Civilian Equivalent		Army Commendation Medal	Commanders COL & above		Civilian Service Commendation Medal	Commanders (Colonel (06) and above or civilian equivalent) and HQDA Principal Officials		Public Service Commendation Medal	Commanders (COL (06) & above, HQDA Principal Officials
	Joint Service Achievement Medal	O-6 or Civilian Equivalent		Army Achievement Medal	Commanders LTC & above Civilian Equivalent		Civilian Service Achievement Medal	Commanders (Lieutenant Colonel (05) and above or civilian equivalent and HQDA Principal Officials		Patriotic Public Service Lapel Pin	Commanders LTC & above and the AASA for HQDA