

CARING HEART AWARD

(NAD Updated: May 30, 2012)
(NPUC Updated: June 30, 2019)
(NPUC Updated: April, 2024)

A Christian Service Recognition Award For Secondary Students

PURPOSE

The Seventh-day Adventist church and school believe that teaching young people to be actively involved in witnessing and service activities is central to the educational goals of the school and to the mission of the church. For this reason, the secondary student "Caring Heart Award" for Christian service has been established to give recognition to those secondary students who have demonstrated a personal commitment to active participatory service and witnessing activities and programs.

Through the "Caring Heart Award" for Christian service, the importance of witnessing and service activities will be emphasized and given appropriate recognition along with academic, athletic, music, and other school awards and honors. It is the purpose of this award to not only give appropriate recognition, but to foster increased awareness and participation in witnessing-service activities by all students.

The NAD and union conference Offices of Education have arranged for funding of the "Caring Heart Award" to recognize outstanding student achievement in the area of Christian service.

PROCEDURES FOR SELECTING AWARD WINNERS

Potential recipients of the "Caring Heart Award" for Christian service will be identified and nominated by staff members, pastor/campus chaplain, student leaders, or the school witnessing-outreach coordinator. The final screening and selection of the award recipient will be by a selection committee at each senior academy in the North American Division comprised of the principal, Bible teacher(s), witnessing-outreach coordinator, guidance counselor or dean, and one or two student representatives.

In selecting the award recipient, the selection committee should choose:

- (1) a full-time junior or senior student with,
- (2) a strong citizenship record,
- (3) who has given evidence of a personal commitment to Christian service activities by exhibiting initiative and responsibility for carrying through on such activities.

Criteria might also include:

- (4) The student, through participation in witnessing-service activities, should serve as an overall example on the campus.
- (5) significant and varied participation in service-type activities, witnessing experiences, and mission trips (inside and/or outside the country).

NUMBER OF AWARDS

The North American Division Office of Education will provide one "**Caring Heart Award**" to each NAD-accredited senior academy that has selected an eligible candidate. The student award will consist of a special scholarship award certificate with a value of \$1,000 accompanied by a plaque and engraved Bible. The scholarship award may be used by the student award recipient for either (1) funding a mission trip experience (inside or outside the country), or (2) as tuition assistance at the Adventist school of their choice.

The organization leading the mission trip or school accepting the scholarship award certificate will sign it in the appropriate place and send it to the union conference Office of Education in which the academy is located for a reimbursement check.

AWARD CEREMONY

It is requested that the school present the "Caring Heart Award" for Christian service at the same time as all other scholarships and awards are presented during graduation weekend at the school. Where possible, the award should be made by a union or conference education leader or the academy principal, campus chaplain, or witnessing-outreach coordinator, along with appropriate remarks for the importance of this aspect of a student's education. The award to the student will consist of a plaque, engraved Bible, and scholarship given at the time of recognition. The scholarship award certificate will be prepared by the union conference Office of Education and the plaque and Bible provided by the North American Division Office of Education.

CONDITIONS AND TIMELINES

1. The academies will submit the name of their selected award recipient to their union conference office of education by **March 1**.
2. The Union Directors of Education will send a list of all award recipients from their union to the North American Division Office of Education by **March 15**.
3. NADOE will prepare the "Caring Heart Award" plaques and Bibles in the students' names and send them to the union offices by **April 15** in time for graduation services.

4. The Union Directors of Education will prepare the “Caring Heart Award” scholarship certificates and send these along with the plaques and Bibles to the academies.
5. The organizations or schools receiving the consigned \$1,000 scholarship award certificates should send the signed certificates to the union conference Office of education in which the academy resides in exchange for a check in the same amount. **Award certificates will be redeemable up to 12 months from date of issue.**

