

EMPLOYER OF OLDER WORKERS AWARD

Information Sheet

History: In 1958, the National Economic Commission expanded its Employer Awards Program by creating an award for employers of older workers. Because the commission saw older workers as a valuable economic resource of proven skills, stability and experience, it wanted to encourage employers to hire and retain older workers in the work force. National “Employ the Older Worker Week” was established by The American Legion and is observed during the last full week of each September.

The National Economic Commission believes that this particular award category will become increasingly important over the next few years. Several major studies have concluded that as we enter the twenty-first century there will be fewer young people entering the labor market. As a result, it will be necessary for employers to encourage older workers to stay in the labor force.

Purpose of Award: To confer recognition on one employer in each state for an outstanding record in the hiring and retention of older workers.

Deadline: December 15th. The deadline for submission of nominations of Employer of Older Workers is no later than December 15th. Nominations received after that date will not be eligible for consideration for the national award.

Procedure: Nominations from Posts, or other sources must be sent to Department Headquarters. The Department then selects **one** nominee and sends the winning nominations with their supporting information to the National Economic Commission. Either the Department Adjutant or Department Employment Chairman must sign the nomination. Nominations that arrive without supporting information **will not** be eligible for the national awards.

Nomination Form: A copy of the official nomination form, which is the same for all three-employer size categories, follows. Additional copies may also be obtained by writing or calling the National Economic Commission, The American Legion, 1608 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20006; phone 202-861-2700, or online at www.legion.org

Award: The commission provides free plaques to each Department that submits nominations. It is recommended, however, that Posts and Departments recognize their other nominees with plaques or awards that can be purchased for a nominal cost through Emblem Sales. The National Winner will receive a large plaque to be presented by the National Commander at the Annual National convention and will receive a stipend to help defray the cost of their representative’s travel to the convention city to accept the award.



THE EMPLOYER OF OLDER WORKERS AWARD

Nomination Form

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 15 TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

The American Legion Department of: _____ Date: _____

The American Legion Post's name and number: _____

Please print or type information:

1. Exact name of company: _____

2. Business address: _____

3. Name and title of the company's contact person: _____

4. Contact person's telephone number: _____

5. Type of business: _____

6. Total employees: _____ Employees over 55: _____

7. ***Attach additional pages*** of reasons why you feel this nominee should receive this year's Employer of Older Workers Award. Include a brief summary of the company's policies and records that qualify it, such as hiring, promotion, retention, and affirmative employment policies.

8. Name, title and daytime telephone number of the person making the nomination:

Only those nominations that include adequate documentation on the nominee's employment practices concerning veterans will be considered for the National Employer of Older Workers Awards. It is recommended that the nominator provide a copy of the company's written policy on employment of veterans if available, a description of how the employer supports veterans' activities in the community, and any other reasons why the nominee should be selected to be the Employer of Older Workers Award winner.

Nominations by Posts and individuals must be sent to Department headquarters as soon as possible so that the Department will have time to review all nominations received and make the selection of its winners.

All nominations must arrive at Department Headquarters on or before December 15th. Either the Department Adjutant or Department Employment Chairman must approve this nomination.

Approved Signature: _____ Date: _____

Check One: Department Adjutant Department Employment Chairman

Desired presentation date at Department Convention: _____