

Red Cross Lifesaver Awards

WHAT: The Red Cross Lifesaver Award is given to recognize a lifesaving act performed by an individual who utilized skills learned through Red Cross health & safety training.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Red Cross will honor someone with a Lifesaver Award if that person:

- Used CPR, First Aid and/or AED skills to help someone in a life-threatening situation
- Was trained in CPR, First Aid, Babysitting, Lifeguarding or AED skills by the Red Cross or a Red Cross-authorized instructor
- Performed the lifesaving act within the past year.

Nominees who have performed lifesaving acts but who are *not* Red Cross trained are still eligible for recognition at their local Red Cross chapters' annual Heroes events. Red Cross Lifesaver Award Nominations that fall within this category will automatically be forwarded to their local Heroes nominations pools.

ON-SITE RECOGNITION

The Red Cross may provide a brief, on-site recognition ceremony for nominees who:

- a) Performed their lifesaving act within the past 30 days and/or
- b) Are deemed to have performed an extraordinary act of bravery, compassion or service.

If your nominee qualifies for on-site recognition, a Red Cross representative will contact you ASAP to make arrangements. This recognition ceremony will preferably take place no later than a week of our receiving the nomination, at the site of the lifesaving incident or the nominator's place of business; if necessary, the Red Cross can also hold the ceremony at our headquarters in Denver.

What the Red Cross needs from the nominator:

- Provide contact information for the nominee so that we can pre-interview him or her about the lifesaving incident
- Let us know whether you prefer to "surprise" the nominee with the award, in which case we will need to gather accurate incident details from you
- Arrange a suitable location at your place of business where we can host the ceremony – room for up to 20 people. If you do not have a suitable location, the Red Cross can host the ceremony at our headquarters in Denver.
- Invite the nominee's coworkers, family, friends or other appropriate guests
- Give us permission to invite media to the ceremony and post information on our Web site
- Respond to our Communications department with edits and/or approval within 1 business day of receiving the draft Red Cross release about the ceremony.

What the Red Cross will provide:

- Representative(s) to give a brief (5 minute) presentation and present the award
- The award, mounted on a plaque
- A news release, which we will send to local media 1 day prior to the event
- Mention of the recognition ceremony on our Web site and social media

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ):

What does a Red Cross Lifesaver Award winner receive?

- Upon verifying qualifications, each award winner will receive a Red Cross Lifesaver Award certificate

- Nominees who performed the lifesaving act within the past 30 days or who are deemed to have performed an extraordinary act may also be honored at an on-site ceremony led by Red Cross staff.
- All nominees will be entered into the pool of nominations for their chapter's annual American Red Cross Heroes event, such as the Breakfast of Champions.
- Award winners will also have the opportunity to share their lifesaving story with the Red Cross for inclusion on the Colorado Red Cross Web site and other informational materials.

How do I nominate a Red Cross lifesaver?

Fill out the online form at: www.ColoradoRedCross.org/nominate. Try to do this as soon as you find out about the event, as lifesaving acts that occurred within the past 30 days also qualify for an on-site recognition ceremony.

Who is eligible for a Red Cross Lifesaver Award?

The Red Cross will honor someone with a Lifesaver Award if that person:

- Used CPR, First Aid and/or AED skills to help someone in a life-threatening situation
- Was trained in CPR, First Aid, Babysitting, Lifeguarding or AED skills by the Red Cross or a Red Cross-authorized instructor
- Performed the lifesaving act within the past year.

Nominees who have performed lifesaving acts who are not Red Cross trained are eligible for nomination for a Red Cross heroes award. Red Cross Lifesaver Award Nominations that fall within this category will automatically be forwarded to their local chapter's nomination pool.

How is this award different from the Breakfast of Champions/Heroes Award?

The Red Cross Lifesaver Award aims to recognize every Red Cross-trained person who uses Red Cross skills to help someone in a life-threatening situation.

Every qualified nominee for a Red Cross Lifesaver Award will be automatically entered into the pool of nominations for their chapter's annual Heroes Event/Breakfast of Champions.

Red Cross annual Heroes events feature several awards that recognize people who have performed lifesaving acts; in the past, these awards have included the Youth, Adult, Professional, Red Cross Trained and Animal Lifesaver Awards. Only one winner is selected for each Heroes Category, however the Red Cross receives nominations on behalf of many lifesaving heroes every year.

The other difference is that the Heroes/Breakfast of Champions lifesaver awards do recognize nominees who may not have received Red Cross training, whereas the Red Cross Lifesaver Award is specifically designed to honor individuals who have put their Red Cross training to use to save a life.

Can someone win both a Red Cross Lifesaver Award and a Heroes/Breakfast of Champions Award?

Yes. Anyone who is selected for a Red Cross Lifesaver Award is automatically entered into the pool of nominees for their chapter's annual Heroes event. However, winning a Red Cross Lifesaver Award does not guarantee that the nominee will also win a Heroes/Breakfast of Champions Award.

What if the lifesaving act occurred more than one year ago?

If the lifesaving act occurred more than a year ago, the individual may still qualify for a Heroes award, but not for a Red Cross Lifesaver Award. We have this time limit in order to encourage the public to notify us as soon as possible of a lifesaving event, to keep our awards timely, to reward lifesavers in a timely manner, and to ensure accurate representation of the events.

What if the person I want to nominate was not trained by the Red Cross?

Please note that on your submission. The individual will be entered into the nomination pool for the annual Heroes event but will not receive a Red Cross Lifesaver Award.

Can I nominate a group of people who worked together to save a life?

Yes. Just make sure to provide us with their contact information so that we can make sure to recognize all of the individuals who helped save a life.

Is this only for Denver-area residents?

No. Any Colorado resident can qualify for a Red Cross Lifesaver Award; however, each Chapter will vary in its ability to participate in on-site recognition ceremonies.

Can I nominate a doctor, EMT or other medical professional?

Yes, but please note that the selection committee may choose not to award someone who was performing CPR or First Aid or using an AED within the normal scope of their daily duties.

How are winners selected?

A Red Cross staff selection committee reviews each award nomination to determine whether they meet the basic criteria.

How will an award winner receive his/her award?

If the lifesaving act occurred within a month of the nomination, the Red Cross will work with the nominator to present the award in person at an on-site recognition ceremony. If the lifesaving event was more than a month ago, the Red Cross will mail the certificate directly to the award winner, or to the nominator if the nominator prefers to present the award.

Will I be notified if my nominee earns an award?

Yes. A Red Cross representative will contact you to inform you whether your nominee will be receiving an award in person or via the mail. If the nominee qualifies for an on-site recognition ceremony, we will work with you to set that up, preferably within a week of your nomination submission. If the lifesaving act occurred more than a month before the nomination submission, we will ask you whether you would like to present the award certificate to the nominee or whether you would like us to mail it to the nominee.