



The Pershing Foundation announces three (3) unit awards based on the scholastic achievement of unit members and 2026 NATCON participation. The awards are offered to encourage and recognize scholastic achievement and attendance at NATCON. All college level Pershing Rifles and Pershing Angel units in good standing with their respective national organizations, and attending the 2026 NATCON are eligible.

The 2026 awards will be:

- First Place: a plaque with engraved unit designation and names of its members, and a \$1,000 check.
- Second Place: a plaque with engraved unit designation and a \$750 check.
- Third Place: plaque with engraved unit designation and a \$500 check.

The Scholastic scoring will be based on the following criteria:

- The combined and averaged GPAs of a unit's entire registered members, whether attending NATCON or not, and
- Additional credit for students majoring in STEM related fields of study.

Participation scoring will be based on the percentage of unit members attending the NATCON event. Unit members in attendance as National and Regimental staff will be included with their home unit. Maximum score will be 100.

The Scholastic Scoring will be:

- Average GPAs x 100, with a possible maximum of 400, plus STEM Major bonuses.
- STEM based majors recognized by the DoD, will receive an additional ten percent (10%). Use only an upper case "Y" to specify a STEM major. ***Do not write out the majors.*** The spreadsheet has an "If-then" formatted calculation for quick computation of STEM bonuses. Anything other than an upper case "Y" will not allow the extra credit.

- The Grade Point Averages (GPA's) will be based on the cumulative average of each active member as of the end of the school term most recently ending prior to the event. Spring applicants to the organizations should also be included.
- Individual names will not be required on the entry form, but their initials will be used to cross reference their participation with NATCON registration.
- The unit advisors will be asked to confirm and attest to the accuracy of the information, and to keep the spreadsheets confidential.
- The authorized entry spread sheet must be sent as an attachment from the unit's advisor to the Pershing Foundation's secretary at: john.chatelain@gmail.com no later than 15 February.

Scoring for both scholastic information and participation will be cross referenced with the National Society of Pershing Rifles and the National Society of Pershing Angels unit registration data bases. A missing GPA will be scored as zero (0.00).

The winning units will be announced and checks presented at the awards presentation during the Saturday Banquet. The plaques will be presented at the following year's awards banquet.

Authorized award spreadsheet forms may be found through the Foundation website.

15 January will be the opening date for application submissions. It is highly recommended the applications be submitted as early as possible in order to allow time for corrections in the event of submission errors. **Deadline for submissions of Scholastic-Participation Award Spreadsheets will be midnight Central Standard Time on 15 February 2026.**

Authorized spreadsheets are to be returned as email attachments to the Pershing Foundation Secretary at john.chatelain@gmail.com. **Please title the email as "Pershing Foundation Scholastic Award". These need to be submitted by the unit faculty advisors.**

Notes:

1. The U.S. Army Cadet Command provides additional accession points for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematic (STEM) related majors. Reference: USACC Pamphlet 145-1. Dated 02 August 2016.
2. As a 501c3 nonprofit organization, the Pershing Rifles Foundation has restrictions on how it may legally distribute funds. If the winning unit has an established account which meets IRS qualifications, the award may be payable to the unit. If the unit does not have such an account, the check will be made to the unit's sponsoring ROTC department or its university.
3. The Foundation Treasurer will need the name of the winning units' accounts and their addresses in order to properly make out the checks and record the transactions. Spaces for both are provided on the spreadsheet.