

2025 JOHN LEWIS YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD Q&A

Q: Who is eligible to give this award?

A: Only NASS member Secretaries of State and Lt. Governors in good standing may present the John Lewis Award. NASS does not accept applications from non-members or outside organizations/individuals. Youths who are interested in applying for the award should contact their Secretary of State/Lt. Governor for submission guidelines.

Q: How do I order a John Lewis Award?

A: Please complete the John Lewis Award order application and submit it to Brittany Hamilton (bhamilton@nass.org) along with 2-3 paragraphs noting your basis for selection, as well as a high-quality picture of the award recipient, such as a school photo or professional headshot.

Q: Once the application is submitted, what happens next?

A: Once the award application has been submitted to NASS, the order will be sent to the association's trophy company for a digital proof. This proof will be shared with the ordering state for review and potential edits/corrections. Once the proof is approved by the state, the trophy company engraves the award and ships it to the Secretary of State's/Lt. Governor's office.

Q: When is the deadline to submit an application?

A: Monday, Dec. 8, 2025, is the last day to order the 2025 John Lewis Award. Orders for the 2026 JL Award will be accepted after the 2026 NASS Winter Conference.

Q: How much is the award?

A: Each award costs \$120 (includes shipping). The price will increase to \$140 per award after Monday, Nov. 17, 2025 to expedite order requests during the holiday season.

Q: What is the turnaround time?

A: It can take approximately 10 business days to order, produce, and ship the award from our trophy company in DC. Please be sure to order the award at least three weeks before your scheduled presentation date to avoid shipment delays.

Q: Is payment due upon the submission of the award application?

A: No. Please send your application and materials in first. NASS will send you an invoice for payment once the award is in production.

Q: How many John Lewis Awards can be given per award cycle?

A: Each NASS member state can give up to two John Lewis Awards per award cycle, which resets after every NASS Winter Conference.

Q: When does the award have to be given to the recipient?

A: Ideally, it's recommended to set presentation dates before the 2026 NASS Winter Conference, but this is not required.

Q: When is the deadline to submit photos?

A: A high quality headshot of the award nominee is due upon the submission of the award application. If you have additional pictures from the presentation ceremony that you would like for NASS to include in the annual award recipients video, please send them to bhamilton@nass.org no later than Thursday, January 8, 2026.

Q: Is the engraving format on the acrylic plaque customizable?

A: No. For uniformity, the engraving cannot be customized aside from the recipient's name and the name and state of the awarding Secretary/Lt. Governor.

Q: Can the award be given to a group?

A: Yes, as long as the members of the group meet the submission criteria.