



AMCL

Association of Marine Corps Logisticians

Where professionals talk logistics.

AMCL Annual Awards Program Guide

Program Overview

The Association of Marine Corps Logisticians (AMCL) Annual Awards Program recognizes excellence, innovation, and sustained impact across the Marine Corps logistics community. The program highlights ideas, achievements, and contributions that strengthen logistics as a warfighting function and help the Marine Corps prepare for the demands of modern expeditionary operations.

AMCL established the awards program to recognize individuals and teams whose work advances readiness, contributes to the future of Marine Corps logistics, and reflects professional excellence across the field.

Eligibility

The AMCL Annual Awards Program is open to:

- Active Duty, Reserve, and Retired Marines
- Department of the Navy (DON) civilian employees serving with or in support of the United States Marine Corps

Individual award categories may include additional eligibility or submission requirements.

AMCL encourages submissions from across the logistics community. Rank, grade, occupational field, or organizational affiliation should not be viewed as a barrier if the submission clearly aligns with the purpose of the selected award.

Annual Submission Window

The submission window for the AMCL Annual Awards Program typically opens in mid-March and closes on 30 June. Specific dates for each annual cycle will be announced by AMCL.

Winners are recognized in connection with the annual Global Expeditionary Logistics Symposium (GELS), typically held in early August.

How to Submit

Submissions are made through the AMCL website (<https://www.marinecorpslogistics.org/awards>). Applicants should select the appropriate award category and complete that award's submission form.

Depending on the category, the form may include required fields, written responses, uploads, links, and supporting materials. AMCL may request additional information such as a biography, photo, supporting documentation, or updated point-of-contact information.

AMCL Annual Awards Program Guide

Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the category-specific submission worksheet before completing the website form. These worksheets are intended to help applicants prepare their materials in advance and ensure the submission aligns with the selected award.

Common Submission Rules

Unless otherwise stated in the category-specific instructions, the following rules apply across the AMCL Annual Awards Program:

- Self-nominations are allowed for all awards except the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- No command endorsement is required.
- Each submission must clearly identify the selected award category.
- AMCL may contact the nominee or point of contact for clarification or administrative follow-up.

For the Lifetime Achievement Award, the nominee must be nominated by another person or organization.

Award Categories at a Glance

Logistics Think Tank (LOGTANK) Award: Recognizes ideas that solve or improve operational logistics challenges and help position Marines for advantage in future operations. This award is intended to spotlight practical thinking that can improve readiness, support expeditionary operations, or address recognized logistics problems in a meaningful way.

Submission type: Individual or team

Typical format: Written submission or video submission

Logistics Fiction Award: Recognizes a fictional story or video created by the nominee(s) that helps the audience envision future logistics challenges, opportunities, and operating environments. This award is intended to encourage thoughtful, imaginative work that expands how logisticians think about future conflict, future sustainment, and future logistics capabilities.

Submission type: Individual or team

Typical format: Written submission or video submission

Strategic Partnership Award: Recognizes ideas, initiatives, or examples of collaboration that identify or demonstrate new training, public-private, joint, academic, allied, or other partnership opportunities that support Marine Corps warfighting concepts. This award highlights the value of collaboration in solving logistics challenges and improving the Marine Corps' ability to prepare for and sustain future operations.

Submission type: Individual or team

AMCL Annual Awards Program Guide

Typical format: Written submission or video submission

Major Michael Whitaker Award for Data-Driven Logistics: Recognizes data-driven logistics solutions that turn existing information into actionable insight, practical innovation, and measurable impact. This award honors accomplishments or proposals that apply data, analytics, or related methods to improve logistics outcomes at the tactical, operational, or strategic level.

This award is named in honor of Major Michael Gerrod Whitaker, USMC, whose work in conditions-based maintenance and predictive maintenance reflected a deep commitment to solving difficult logistics problems and advancing the Marine Corps' approach to data-informed logistics.

Submission type: Individual

Typical format: Written submission, video submission, or graphical/visual demonstration

Lifetime Achievement Award: Recognizes significant, sustained contributions to the field of military logistics and the professional logistics community. This award is intended to honor long-term service, leadership, influence, innovation, and impact across a career of contribution to Marine Corps logistics.

Nominees should have a demonstrated record of meaningful contribution to the profession over time. The current baseline expectation is a minimum of **nine years of contribution to the military logistics field**, with emphasis on **sustained impact** rather than a single accomplishment.

Submission type: Individual

Typical format: Nomination package submitted by another person or organization

What Makes a Strong Submission

A strong submission should do more than describe an idea or accomplishment. It should clearly explain why the work matters and how it contributes to the Marine Corps logistics enterprise.

In general, strong submissions should:

- Clearly define the logistics problem, contribution, or achievement
- Explain why it matters operationally or professionally
- Show impact or potential impact on the Marine Corps logistics enterprise
- Where applicable, explain relevance to the Joint Force or broader defense logistics community (broader Joint Force applicability increases submission strength)

Submissions do not need to be overly formal, but they should be clear, focused, and well organized.