

TITLE 67
STATE GOVERNMENT AND STATE AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 88
IDAHO LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS MEDAL OF HONOR

67-8801. IDAHO LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS MEDAL OF HONOR ESTABLISHED. There is hereby established a decoration of the Idaho law enforcement, firefighting and EMS medal of honor, referred to in this chapter as the "Idaho medal of honor," with accompanying ribbons and appurtenances for award by the governor in the name of the state to any law enforcement officer, firefighter or EMS provider who has been killed or seriously injured in the performance of duty, or who has been distinguished by exceptionally meritorious conduct, upon nomination of the Idaho law enforcement, firefighting and EMS medal of honor commission.

[67-8801, added 2004, ch. 367, sec. 1, p. 1089; am. 2005, ch. 163, sec. 2, p. 498; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 1, p. 454.]

67-8802. IDAHO LAW ENFORCEMENT, FIREFIGHTING AND EMS MEDAL OF HONOR COMMISSION CREATED -- MEMBERSHIP -- ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR AWARD. (1) There is hereby created in the office of the governor the Idaho law enforcement, firefighting and EMS medal of honor commission, hereafter referred to as the commission, which shall nominate candidates for the award of the Idaho medal of honor. The commission shall consist of one (1) representative from each of the following: the office of the governor, the office of the attorney general, the Idaho prosecuting attorneys association, the Idaho chiefs of police association, the Idaho fire chiefs association, the Idaho sheriffs' association, the Idaho peace officers association, the Idaho department of health and welfare bureau of emergency medical services, the peace officers standards and training council, and the professional firefighters of Idaho. Members of the commission shall be appointed by the governor and shall each serve for a term of four (4) years. Members of the commission shall hold office until the latter of expiration of the term to which the member was appointed or his successor has been duly appointed and qualified.

(2) The attorney general or his designee shall serve as chair of the commission and shall designate a secretary for the commission.

(3) The commission shall meet annually, or at the call of the chair, to consider candidates for nomination. Commission meetings may be conducted via teleconference.

(4) The commission may adopt such rules as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

[67-8802, added 2004, ch. 367, sec. 1, p. 1089; am. 2005, ch. 163, sec. 3, p. 498; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 2, p. 454.]

67-8803. WHEN AND BY WHOM AWARDED. The Idaho medal of honor shall be awarded by the governor in a ceremony during the time that the legislature is in session or at such other time as the commission may decide. The governor may delegate the awarding of the medal to the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, or another member of the commission.

[67-8803, added 2004, ch. 367, sec. 1, p. 1090; am. 2005, ch. 163, sec. 4, p. 499; am. 2012, ch. 213, sec. 1, p. 580; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 3, p. 455.]

67-8804. POSTHUMOUS AWARD. The Idaho medal of honor may be awarded posthumously by presentation to a representative of the deceased as may be deemed appropriate by the governor or the designees specified in section [67-8803](#), Idaho Code.

[67-8804, added 2004, ch. 367, sec. 1, p. 1090; am. 2005, ch. 163, sec. 5, p. 499; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 4, p. 455.]

67-8805. DESIGN AND COST. The decoration of the Idaho medal of honor shall be cast in bronze or other metal. The design of the medal shall incorporate the great seal of the state of Idaho with other insignia as deemed appropriate by the commission. The reverse of the decoration shall be inscribed with the words: "For honorable and meritorious conduct." The cost of the medal shall be paid by the agency whose officer, firefighter or EMS provider receives the medal. The family of a recipient may request a second medal and may receive such medal upon payment to the commission of the cost of the medal.

[67-8805, added 2004, ch. 367, sec. 1, p. 1090; am. 2005, ch. 163, sec. 6, p. 499; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 5, p. 455.]

67-8806. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "EMS" means emergency medical services.
- (2) "Emergency medical services provider" or "EMS provider" means an emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician, or paramedic licensed by the department of health and welfare pursuant to sections [56-1011](#) through [56-1018B](#), Idaho Code, and an ambulance-based clinician as defined in the rules governing emergency medical services as adopted by the department of health and welfare.
- (3) "Exceptional meritorious conduct" means an act of bravery and self-sacrifice, at the risk of serious injury or loss of one's own life, which is so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish the individual above his comrades.
- (4) "Firefighter" means a volunteer member or paid employee whose primary duty is preventing, extinguishing, or investigating fires and who prevents, extinguishes, or investigates fires as part of a fire district, fire department, or agency that is a part of or administered by the state or any political subdivision thereof.
- (5) "Law enforcement officer" means a volunteer member or a paid employee of a police or law enforcement agency that is a part of or administered by the state, a federally recognized Indian tribe, or any political subdivision of the state whose primary duties are the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the laws of this state or any of its political subdivisions.
- (6) "Serious injury" means any injury that causes great bodily harm and a probability of death, any injury that causes significant permanent disfigurement, or any injury that causes a significant permanent loss or impairment of the function of any body part or organ.

[67-8806, added 2005, ch. 163, sec. 7, p. 499; am. 2020, ch. 152, sec. 6, p. 455.]

67-8807. NOMINATIONS. (1) All nominations shall be:

- (a) In writing;
- (b) Submitted on the form provided by the commission; and
- (c) Postmarked and mailed, or hand-delivered, to the commission chairman at the address appearing on the nomination form on or before the date set forth on the form.

(2) All documentation, photographs, testimonials, affidavits, or other supplemental or additional information pertaining to the nomination must accompany the completed form.

(3) Nomination forms must be endorsed by the chief law enforcement officer of the department of the nominee, the fire chief, or the head of the nominee's EMS agency, as applicable.

[67-8807, added 2020, ch. 152, sec. 7, p. 456.]

67-8808. QUALIFICATIONS. All nominees shall:

(1) Be, or at the time of the incident must have been, a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or EMS provider performing or fulfilling responsibilities in an official capacity as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or EMS provider; and

(2) Have performed with exceptional meritorious conduct, including conduct that resulted in death or serious injury.

[67-8808, added 2020, ch. 152, sec. 8, p. 456.]