



U.S. Army – Pro Football Hall of Fame Award for Excellence Program Overview

Background:

Launched in January 2012, the U.S. Army-Pro Football Hall of Fame Award for Excellence program seeks to highlight the Nation’s top sophomore, junior, and senior high school athletes who share key attributes of U.S. Army Soldiers and Pro Football Hall of Fame values; and who not only excel athletically, but also excel academically and are active in their communities. Since 2012, only 85 student athletes have been named finalists from around the country.

Award Nominations Criteria:

Students nominated for the U.S. Army-Pro Football Hall of Fame Award for Excellence must meet the following criteria in order to be considered for selection. Nominations and judging criteria include:

- Students must be in their sophomore, junior, or senior year of an accredited high school during the 2017-2018 school year. High schools must either be in the United States or part of the Department of Defense system of schools in order for students to qualify.
- Students must be a current, active member on a school athletic team and have completed one season of play at minimum.
- Students must hold a minimum 3.5 GPA on an unweighted scale.
- Students must be involved with and/or support the local community:
 - Community service can include volunteering and/or mentoring for any non-school or non-work related organization.
- Students must have three letters of recommendation:
 1. One letter from a school representative, such as administrative staff, teachers or counselors.
 2. One letter from athletic team coach and/or assistant coach.
 3. One letter from community service organization representative.
- The Pro Football Hall of Fame and U.S. Army stand for Excellence. Aristotle stated “Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” Students must write an essay defining the habits of Excellence that they have experienced in 500 words or less.

Award Nominations Process:

All nomination information will need to be submitted via email to USArmy@ProFootballHOF.com by midnight EDT **January 12, 2018**. You will receive an email confirmation when your email is delivered successfully.

The judging panel, comprised of Pro Football Hall of Fame executives, Professional Football Hall of Fame athletes and U.S. Army representatives, will review all submissions and 25 Award finalists will be notified on **February 5, 2018**. Upon the finalist announcements, Award for Excellence Program representatives will work to set up a formal finalist presentation with a Hall of Fame “Gold Jacket” at each nominated student’s school during the spring of 2018.

Each of the 25 nominated finalists will be provided with travel arrangements (provided by the PFHOF) to the 2018 Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend in Canton, Ohio, to participate in weekend activities **August 2-5, 2018**. Activities include, an NFL preseason game, the 2018 Enshrinement Ceremony, Tailgate parties, dinners, games and more. The winner of the U.S. Army-Pro Football Hall of Fame Award for Excellence will be announced during a special recognition at the Pro Football Hall of Fame on **Saturday, August 4, 2018**. **The winner will also receive a scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.**

Previous Winners:

2012: Nate Lewis – Springfield, IL (Sacred-Heart Griffin High School)

2013: Andrew Way – Hebron, KY (Conner High School)

2015: Courtney Cecere – Sidman, PA (Forest Hills High School)

2016: Ariana Luterman – Addison, TX (Greenhill High School)

2017: Emily Scott – Elizabethtown, NC (East Bladen High School)

Additional Award Information:

- Pro Football Hall of Fame Award for Excellence Program information:
- <https://www.goarmy.com/events/all-american-bowl/hall-of-fame.html>
- <http://www.profootballhof.com/award-for-excellence/>

Award Contact Information:

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