

## Meritorious Service Medal Ribbon

The Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) is a decoration presented by the United States Armed Forces to recognize superior and exceptional non-combat service that does not meet the caliber of the Legion of Merit Medal. As of September 11, 2001, this award may also be issued for outstanding service in specific combat theater. The majority of recipients are field grade officers, senior warrant officers, senior non-commissioned officers and foreign military personnel in the ranks of O-6 and below. Subsequent awards are denoted by bronze oak leafs for Army and Air Force members, and gold stars for Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members.



## Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon

### Criteria:

The Navy Unit Commendation (NUC) is an award of the United States Navy that is used to recognize heroism and outstanding actions preformed by any ship, unit, aircraft or detachment of the Navy and United States Marine Corps. The actions need to be of the caliber that would earn an individual a Silver Star Medal. Units of other branches of the Armed Forces are also eligible for the award as long as they are assigned or attached to Navy or Marine Corps units.

## Navy Expeditionary Medal Ribbon

The Navy Expeditionary Medal (NEM) is a decoration presented by the United States Navy to recognize members who have landed on foreign shores and participated in operations against enemy forces. Individuals also may be eligible who served in a mission that is considered by an authority to warrant this award. It is retroactive to February 12, 1874. The Navy Expeditionary Medal and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal are not authorized to be awarded for the same event and service members who qualify for both must decide which medal they prefer. Subsequent awards are denoted by Service Stars worn on the award ribbon.

## Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon

### Criteria:

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) is a unit award of the United States Navy presented to U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units. The award is presented for service that is preformed with character that would be comparable to the Bronze Star Medal. Additional awards are represented by wearing a Bronze Star device on the service ribbon.

## National Defense Service Medal Ribbon

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a decoration presented to recognize all military members who have served in active duty during a declared "national emergency". To be eligible, members must have served honorably during one of the following time periods: The Korean War from June 27, 1950 - July 27, 1954; The Vietnam War from January 1, 1961 - August 14, 1974; The Gulf War from August 2, 1990 - November 30, 1995; the War on Terrorism from September 11, 2001 - a yet to be determined date. There is no requirement on the amount of time served within the time frames. Subsequent NDSM awards for active service in more than one of the eligible time periods are denoted by service stars worn on the original award ribbon.

## Navy Good Conduct Medal Ribbon

The Navy Good Conduct Medal (NGCM) is a decoration presented by the United States Navy to recognize members who have completed three years of honorable service. Medals awarded before January 1, 1996 required four years of service. Successive awards are denoted by Service Stars worn on the award medal. After 12 years of noble service, a member is authorized to wear a gold Petty Officer insignia.

## Vietnam Service Medal Ribbon

The Vietnam Service Medal (VSM) is a decoration of the U.S. military presented to personnel of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces who performed military service during the Vietnam War and meet specific qualifications laid out by the United States Department of Defense. To be eligible service members must have completed 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days of service relating to direct support of ground operations or maritime service directly aiding military operations within specific regions of the Republic of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand between the dates of November 15, 1961 - March 28, 1973 and April 29, 1975 - April 30, 1975. U.S. Air Force members who flew in missions over Vietnam Airspace are also eligible for the award.