

**CHAPTER 3****MILITARY SERVICE MEDALS****Authority**

N.J.S.A. 38A:15-2 and 15-3; Executive Order  
No. 29 dated March 20, 1991.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.1992 d.56, effective February 3, 1992.  
See: 23 N.J.R. 1490(a), 23 N.J.R. 3409(a), 24 N.J.R. 409(a).

**Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date**

Chapter 3, Military Service Medals, expires on February 3, 1997.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS****5A:3-1.1 Scope**

This chapter is applicable to all residents of the State who served in any capacity on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States of America in time of war or emergency and were honorably discharged from such service.

**5A:3-1.2 Purpose**

The purpose of the service medals outlined in this chapter is to recognize military service in defense of both State and Nation of individual residents of the State of New Jersey and to commemorate such service.

**SUBCHAPTER 2. NEW JERSEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL****5A:3-2.1 Policy**

The purpose of the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal is to recognize any resident of the State of New Jersey, who, while serving in Federal military service on active duty in time of war or emergency, shall distinguish himself or herself by especially meritorious service and who has been cited in orders for distinguished service by appropriate Federal authority.

**5A:3-2.2 Criteria for award**

(a) In order to be eligible for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, a resident of New Jersey shall have:

1. Seen active military service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America during time of war or emergency as attested to by the awarding of an Honorable Discharge (DD 214) by the respective Armed Force;

i. The quality of such service must have been especially meritorious as attested to through the awarding of no less than the Meritorious Service Medal or the Bronze Star Medal by appropriate Federal authority; and

2. Been a resident of the State of New Jersey at the time of entry onto active military service.

**5A:3-2.3 Procedures for requesting award**

(a) To request the awarding of the Medal, a person shall submit a certified copy of DD Form 214 (Armed Forces Discharge Certificate) indicating dates of service, character of service and awards presented which conform to N.J.A.C. 5A:3-2.2 with a proof of New Jersey residency at time of entry on to active duty, in a written request for awarding of the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal to:

The Adjutant General

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs

Attn: Director of Administration

CN 340

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0340

(b) In lieu of evidence of awards of the caliber designated in N.J.A.C. 5A:3-2.2(a)1i being reflected on a DD Form 214, an applicant may submit other certified documents reflecting the awarding in the name of the President of the United States of America a medal of at least the rank of the Meritorious Service Medal or the Bronze Star Medal.

(c) Upon verification of New Jersey residency, as well as the quality and character of service as described in N.J.A.C. 5A:3-2.2, the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs will issue to the requestor the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal with appropriate certificate in the name of the Governor of the State of New Jersey at no cost.

(d) One medal will be issued to each requestor with appropriate lapel ribbon. In the event of service in more than one war or emergency, additional certificates will be prepared and awarded upon receipt of appropriate documentation.