NVFC Junior Firefighter Program of the Year

Sponsored by California Casualty

The National Volunteer Fire Council's (NVFC) Junior Firefighter Program of the Year Award, sponsored by California Casualty, honors a junior firefighter program or Explorer Post that has demonstrated significant community impact, innovation, and creativity.

The nomination period is open from October 30, 2026 – January 15, 2027.

Criteria

Each nominee will be judged on the following criteria:

- Program has been in operation for at least one (1) full year.
- Program has demonstrated exemplary creativity and community impact.

* Former award recipients are not eligible until 10 years after their previous award.

Nomination Materials

Nominations must be received by 5pm EST on January 15, 2027. Nomination packets must include:

- Completed nomination form
- 500-word essay describing the program's contribution to the local community, including specific examples of how they have used innovation to build youth leadership for the benefit of the fire service and the local community
- One (1) letter of recommendation supporting the nominee (from chief or other department leadership, parent of a junior firefighter, city official, or other person familiar with the department's contributions to the community)
- Up to three (3) additional supporting documents, which may include recommendation letters from community members, articles, or other pertinent information

*** Please note:** If chosen, award recipient must submit a digital photo to be used for NVFC newsletters, web sites, etc.

Submit your nomination at: https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/2027-junior-firefighter-program-of-the-year-award/.

Selection

The selection of the NVFC Junior Firefighter Program of the Year will be determined through a nationwide nomination process. The winning program will receive:

- Complimentary 1-year NVFC membership for each junior firefighter
- Local presentation of a personalized award
- National recognition and a place in NVFC history

Contact Information

Contact the NVFC with any questions:

National Volunteer Fire Council
712 H Street, NE, Ste. 1478
Washington, DC 20002

Phone: 1-888-ASK-NVFC (275-6832)
Email: nvfc@nvfc.org

Award Sponsor



California Casualty is a proud longtime partner of the NVFC and its National Junior Firefighter Program. They have been the chosen Auto & Home Insurance provider for first responders across the nation for over four decades. California Casualty offers a variety of insurance products with exclusive benefits that protect firefighters and their families. Coverages and product availability vary by state. For more information visit https://www.calcas.com/nvfc.