

The Distinguished Service Award Silver Lapel Pin



(Taken from State Policy and Procedures)

Description: This “Silver Lapel Pin” award is the 2nd highest award in SIR, to recognize exceptional/extraordinary service at the Branch and/or State levels. This award is to provide a level of recognition for their members that have not earned that which an HLM award requires but have been highly contributing to the success of the Branch and have:

- been a member for a period of 3 years or more.
- clearly earned it through exceptional and extraordinary service.
- steps forward whenever the need arises.
- would be recognized by his peers to have earned it.

The DSA is not to be treated lightly or awarded merely on the basis of good fellowship. A DSA shall remain a member of his Branch until death, transfer, resignation, or permanent relocation, but shall not be subject to attendance requirements. A DSA shall be permitted to transfer from one Branch to another. The transferring DSA shall no longer be counted by either Branch in determining the number of DSAs authorized. A DSA award is authorized for a past HLM recipient when justified by exceptional contributions made subsequent to the HLM award. Additionally, the recipient of a DSA award does not preclude the member from earning an HLM.

A DSA award may be recommended for Branch-related contributions / service and once earned is carried forward as a one- award into new SIR positions.

Branch Allowed Exception: A new Big Sir shall be awarded the Branch DSA lapel pin at the completion of his term or 12 months, whichever comes first. In the case of a previous Big Sir in a second or greater term, regardless of the previous time period he served in, shall receive the DSA award immediately.

Note: All 2021 and 2022 Big Sirs should be presented with a DSA Lapel Pin for their Service in those years since the State Mounted Certificates of Appreciation were discontinued.

All DSAs awarded to Big Sirs shall not count against the number of Branch HLMs allowed.

Procedure: This “DSA Silver Lapel Pin” award is initiated with a Branch DSA Application Form 45B by a BEC member or the Branch Awards committee, approved by the Branch BEC, and forwarded to the Area Representative* for approval and presentation under the authority granted to him by the SIR President.

Note: If the Branch does not have an Area Representative the Form 45B shall be forwarded to the State Vice President for approval. Upon approval a DSA lapel pin will be sent to the Branch Big Sir for presentation.

DSA Emeritus: In situations where the BEC has determined that the DSA recipient can no longer attend or participate in branch functions, the BEC Shall, by two-thirds affirmative vote, that the DSA be assigned Emeritus status in the Branch's DSA membership records. A DSA Emeritus shall not count against the number of Branch DSAs allowed. However, his status shall be part of that Branch's DSA membership records.

Senior DSA Award: When a Branch DSA has been a DSA for 5 years, he shall automatically be elevated to Senior DSA in the Branch records and his DSA shall not count against the number of Branch DSAs allowed.

The DSAs awarded are to recognize the significant and continuing leadership contributions the members in these positions carry forward each day.

Approval Process: A Branch DSA award is initiated by a member of the Branch's BEC, Branch Awards Committee or a current HLM member as appropriate using Form 45B and presented to the Branch BEC for review noting the specific requirements stated in Policy 10. If approved by the BEC with a 2/3rds vote the nomination is sent to the Area Representative for review and approval. If the Branch does not have an Area Representative, then the nomination is sent to the State Vice President for review and approval. Upon approval a DSA lapel pin will be sent to the Branch Big Sir for presentation.

Upon approval the Branch Big Sir will be notified, and the presentation of the DSA will be scheduled for presentation by the Area Representative, if available, or the Big SIR for Branches that do not have an Area Representative. Note that approval shall not result in the number of Branch DSA's awarded in a Branch greater than that shown in the DSA Award Availability by Branch Size table. This is exclusive of the DSA awarded to the Branch Big Sirs as noted below:

Branch Membership	# of DSAs Allowed
0-49	2
50-99	4
100-149	6
150-199	8
200-249	10
250-299	12

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The visible recognition of a lapel pin is so much more important than framed certificates at home on a member's wall which is totally invisible to other members.

The Branch shall maintain sufficient records of all DSA awards and their recipients to ensure they are within the number allowed.

Senior DSA: Upon the five-year anniversary of the date of a member's DSA award the letter 'S' shall be added in the Branch records to indicate the member is a Senior DSA recipient. This action results in the DSA being excluded from the Branch number allowed and allows other deserving members to become eligible for the award.