

**Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) & Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM) for COVID-19  
Questions & Answers**

**Q. Who's authorized the AFSM?**

A. Members who deploy for or are reassigned from their normal duties for 30 days or more (consecutive & non-consecutive) in direct support of the COVID-19 relief efforts. Additionally, the AFSM is authorized for one day of qualifying service if that service resulted in the member contracting the virus.

**Q. Are personnel who didn't deploy eligible for the HSM?**

A. Yes; however, eligibility for the HSM requires direct participation in the COVID-19 relief efforts for at least one day. A qualifying operation and/or activity for the HSM is one which meets the criteria of and resulted in the member being physically present and directly contributing to and influencing the military humanitarian act or operation.

**Q. Are member's eligible for both the AFSM & HSM?**

A. No. Members are not eligible to receive both medals based on the same activities, deployment, and/or period of service.

**Q. Is the AFSM & HSM awarded with other expeditionary medals?**

A. No. The medals are not awarded for COVID-19 activities that occur in a geographical area where a DoD or Department of the Air Force campaign or expeditionary medal is authorized.

**Q. What areas are the medals designated?**

A. There are no designated areas of eligibility.

**Q. Who determines eligibility for award of medals?**

A. Award authorities determine eligibility based on the nature of the qualifying DoD COVID-19 operation and/or activity.

**Q. What are the qualifying operations for award of the HSM?**

A. An operation and/or activity which meets the criteria of and resulted in the member being physically present and directly contributing to and influencing the military humanitarian act or operation.

**Q. What are the inclusive dates for award of the medals?**

A. 31 January 2020 to a future "to be determined" termination date.

**Q. Who determines eligibility for the medals?**

A. Air and Space Forces commanders in the grade of colonel (O-6) and above.

**Q. Can the eligibility be further delegated?**

A. No.

**Q. Is an order prepared for award of the AFSM or HSM?**

A. No; however, the award is approved and documented on an Air Force Form 104, *Service Medal Award Verification*.

**Q. Are sister service members eligible for award of the medals?**

A. Their award of the medals are subject to authorization and approval/disapproval by their respective service.

**Q. Is documentation required to show eligibility for the medals?**

A. Yes. TDY order, letter/memo/certificate of appreciation, E/OPR comments, decoration citation, or other official document which verifies participation in the COVID-19 disaster relief actions.

**Q. Upon verification how is the AFSM or HSM approved?**

A. Member's servicing CSS will prepare an AF Form 104 and forward to the approving official (commanders in the rank of colonel (O-6) or higher) for approval.

**Q. Upon acquiring the approving official's approval what happens to the AF Form 104?**

A. The approved AF Form 104 is forwarded to the servicing force support unit that will update the medal in MilPDS and file the AF Form 104 in ARMS.

**Q. How are the medals worn on the uniform?**

A. The AFSM is worn directly above the HSM and the HSM is worn directly following the Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) and before the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM). Service stars are authorized for wear by personnel who have earned more than one HSM.

**Q. Does award of these medals prevent other forms of recognition?**

A. No.

**Q. Can the medals be awarded posthumously?**

A. Yes