



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Ribbons and Medals



October 2016

Authority to Wear Ribbons and Medals

- Auxiliary uniforms are similar to those worn by Coast Guard officers. Auxiliarists may wear authorized emblems, insignia and ribbons.



General Information About Ribbons and Medals

- Not all ribbons have a corresponding medal 
- Ribbons and medals are always worn in specific order of precedence
- If two ribbons or medals have the same precedence level, they are worn in the order in which they were awarded 
- Ribbons and medals may have attachment devices for a variety of purposes including indication of subsequent awards



- Auxiliarists are **not** authorized to wear anchors, the letters "X" and "V", and numerals on any Coast Guard or Auxiliary ribbons.

Authorized Ribbons of the Auxiliary



Authorized Ribbons of Other Services*



* Examples:
some but not all.

Individual Awards and Medals

- CG AUXILIARY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY LEGION OF MERIT
- PLAQUE OF MERIT
- AUXILIARY MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD (“O” Device Option)
- AWARD OF OPERATIONAL MERIT
- AUXILIARY COMMENDATION AWARD
- AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (“O” Device Option)
- AUXILIARY COMMANDANT LETTER OF COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)



5/16” Gold Star = Additional Award

5/16” Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars

Coast Guard Sustained Auxiliary Service Award

- SUSTAINED AUXILIARY SERVICE AWARD (750 Hours)



3/16" Bronze Star = Additional Award

3/16" Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars (sixth award)

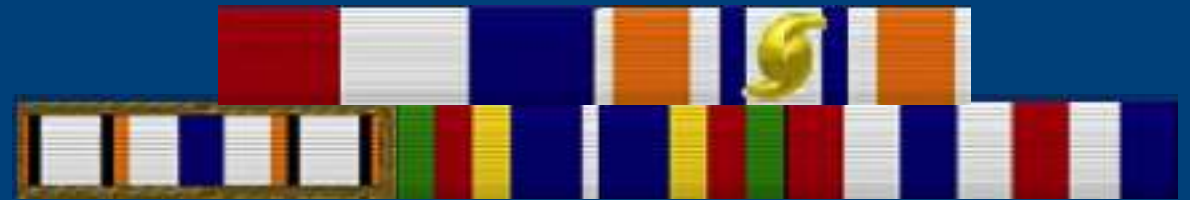
Bronze Hourglass = 7,500 Hours

Gold Hourglass = 15,000 Hours

Silver Hourglass = 25,000 Hours

One-Time Unit and Team Awards

- TRANSPORTATION 9-11 MEDAL
- PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
- DOT SECRETARY'S OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD
- CG BICENTENNIAL UNIT COMMENDATION
- TRANSPORTATION 9-11 RIBBON



Unit and Team Awards

- CG UNIT COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)
- CG MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)
- CG MERITORIOUS TEAM COMMENDATION (“O” Device Option)



5/16" Gold Star = Additional Award

5/16" Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars

Qualifications and Training

- CG RECRUITING SERVICE RIBBON
- AUXILIARY SPECIALTY TRAINING RIBBON (Non-AUXOP Members ONLY.)
- AUXILIARY OPERATIONS PROGRAM RIBBON (“E” Device for QE’s)
- MARINE SAFETY TRAINING RIBBON
- AUXILIARY EXAMINER PROGRAM RIBBON
- AUXILIARY INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM RIBBON
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST AWARD

Remove Specialty Ribbon when AUXOP is earned →



3/16” Bronze Star = Additional Award/Qualification/AUXOP Credit

3/16” Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars

(No stars for the CG Recruiting Service or Instructor Program Ribbons)

Flotilla Achievement Award



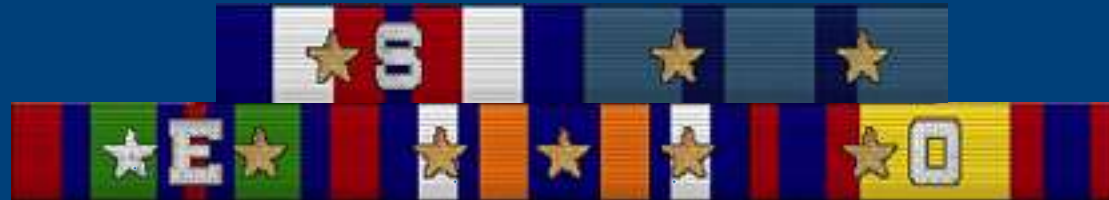
- FLOTILLA MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

5/16" Gold Star = Additional Award
5/16" Silver Star = 5 Gold Stars

Annual Service Awards

- AUXILIARY RECRUITING SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD (5 years)
- AUXILIARY PE SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY VE/MDV SERVICE AWARD
- AUXILIARY OPRNS SERVICE AWARD

Worn in the order earned



3/16" Bronze Star = Additional Award
3/16" Silver Star = 5 Bronze Stars

Wearing Ribbons (Rack Configuration)

Ribbons are worn in rows of 3 except:

- When a jacket lapel obscures more than 1/3 of a medal, it can be worn in successively decreasing rows

*** "Offset" ribbon mounts can be purchased from 3rd parties outside the UDC.



Wearing Medals and Devices

- Devices are worn on metals, similarly as on ribbons
- Devices are centered horizontally and vertically
- 1/8" stars are used for all miniature medals



Wearing Medals (Rack Configuration)

Differing from ribbons:

- Medal mounts change in width, deepening on the number of medals and rows

Miniature Medals					
Number of medals	Number of Rows	Top Row	2nd Row	3rd Row	4th Row
1-5	1	1-5	-	-	-
6	2	3	3	-	-
7	2	3	4	-	-
8	2	4	4	-	-
9	2	4	5	-	-
10	2	5	5	-	-
11	3	3	4	4	-
12	3	4	4	4	-
13	3	3	5	5	-
14	3	4	5	5	-
15	3	5	5	5	-
16	4	4	4	4	4
17	4	3	4	5	5
18	4	3	5	5	5
19	4	4	5	5	5
20	4	5	5	5	5

Ribbon Rack Construction & Tips

- Watch out for breaking pins on the mounts!
- Be careful of pins that stick through clutches
- Plastic mount and insignia backers
- Bending metal ribbon frames to fit and hold on to mounts
- Key tools and attaching devices to ribbons

Ribbon and Award Resources

- USCG Ribbon Checker: <http://ribbons.cgaux.info/>
- AUXMAN (COMDTINST M16790.1G); Chapter 11
- USCG Uniform Regulations (COMDTINST M1020.6G); Chapter 3, Article G
- USCG Auxiliary Awards and Ribbons web site: <http://www.uscg.mil/auxiliary/awards/ribbons/>



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