

The Ellis D. Parker Award

1. Purpose. To set forth the guidelines and rules for the LTG Ellis D. Parker Top Aviation Unit of the Year Competition for FY04.
2. Background. Army Chief of Staff, GEN Gordon R. Sullivan, approved the 1993 LTG Ellis D. Parker Award on 29 January 1993. General Sullivan had directed the creation of the Parker Award to honor the top aviation battalion in the Army during LTG Parker's retirement ceremony on 31 January 1992. The Parker Award is DA level award that recognizes excellence by an Army Aviation unit at the Battalion level, the primary warfighting Army Aviation force. The Parker Award is divided into four categories: Combat, Combat Support, Combat Service Support and TDA.
3. Participation. Aviation and Aviation Maintenance Battalion (or equivalent) of the Active Forces, Reserve, National Guard and TDA Units are eligible. The competition is limited to battalions only. Separate units not part of a battalion (ie, Medical Evacuation Companies, Air Traffic Service Companies) may submit through their higher headquarters.
4. Timeline.
 - a. August – DMS worldwide message sent to all aviation units to inform them of the upcoming Parker Award board and requirements for competition.
 - b. 1 November 04 – Parker Award Nomination Packets due to Aviation Proponency.
 - c. 9 November 04 – Primary date for board to convene
 - d. 16 December 04 – Alternate date for board to convene
 - e. Mid January 05 – Board results verified, approved and announced
5. Battalion Evaluation Packet Rules and Guidelines.
 - a. Basic Guidelines
 - 1 Packets must be contained in a binder no larger than 2" (inches) wide.
 - 2 Pictures are encouraged; however, loose pictures, negatives, slides or computer disks are not allowed and will be removed before a packet goes before the board.
 - 3 Information for each mandatory subject area will not exceed two (2) pages in length.
 - 4 The margins will be set at one inch for all sides.
 - 5 The font should be Bookman Old Style, twelve (12) pitch.
 - 6 The packet consists of 3 sections:
 - Part I
 - a. TAB A – Table of Contents
 - b. TAB B – Category of Competition
 - c. TAB C – Endorsements (BN, BDE, GO, MACOM)
 - d. TAB D – Point of Contact Information

- . Part II – Areas of Evaluation (see VI c. below)
- . Part III – Additional Information

b. Endorsements

- 1 The endorsement process is **non-negotiable**.
- 2 Each MACOM will select best aviation units within their commands.

Only these units will receive a MACOM-level letter of recommendation. The MACOM will then provide these packets to Parker Review Board at Fort Rucker. Obviously, this must be done in time to meet the timeline requirements above.

- 3 Units competing for the Parker Award **must** have a MACOM level endorsement.
- 4 Endorsements should be no more than one page.

c. Part II – Mandatory Areas of Evaluation

- 1 TAB A – Mission Statement
- 2 TAB B – Commander’s Intent
- 3 TAB C – Safety
- 4 TAB D – Leadership
- 5 TAB E – Training
- 6 TAB F – Maintenance

d. Enclosures.

1 Part III of the packet, “Additional Information”, is the proper place to put all other information that substantiates and demonstrates the unit’s level of excellence.

2 There is no limit to the amount of additional information, as long as it will fit in a 2” thick binder.

3 News media clippings and photographs are encouraged; however, films, videotapes, computer media and any other audio/visual items will not be considered. They will be removed before a packet goes to the board.

6. Miscellaneous Information.

a. Classified Information – make every attempt to avoid sending classified information.

b. Once the USAAVNC Commanding General approves the board results, winning units will be notified. Simultaneously, the Public Affairs Office will be notified.

7. Point of Contact Information.

a. Aviation Proponency is the lead agent to coordinate this annual award board.

b. Point of contact can be reached at (334) 255-1423 (DSN 558).

c. The complete award message can be found at the Aviation Proponency Knowledge Center.