

2008 Army Deployment Excellence Award Competition

By Mr. Henry H. Johnson

All Active Army, Reserve, and National Guard units or installations can participate in the Army's 2008 Deployment Excellence Award (DEA) competition. Participating units must have executed or supported a training or contingency deployment during the competition year. Selected winning and runner-up units in each category will send two unit representatives to Washington, D.C., for an expense-paid, four-day trip to accept the awards. The trip includes travel, per diem, lodging, and ground transportation costs; time for shopping; tours of the D.C. area; and a photo with the Army Chief of Staff. Significant dates for the competition include the following:

- 1 December 2006–30 November 2007: The 2008 DEA competition period is open for nominations.
- 1 December 2007–31 January 2008: Packet submissions are due. All packets must be submitted through the unit's chain of command for endorsements. Completed packets are then forwarded to the nominated unit's major Army command, Army service component command, or direct reporting unit.
- 31 January 2008: Nomination packets are due to the DEA evaluation board (from major Army commands, Army service component commands, and direct reporting units).
- 4–15 February 2008: The DEA board screens packets to select semifinalists.
- 28 February 2008: Semifinalists are notified.
- 3–26 March 2008: DEA teams visit selected semifinalists and conduct on-site validation of deployment practices.
- 13 April 2008: The Army G-4 selects and announces the DEA winners via a Department of the Army message.
- 3 June 2008: DEA awards are presented at the Chief of Staff, Army Combined Logistics Excellence Award ceremony and banquet. DEA guidance and evaluation criteria can be found on the Deployment Process Modernization Office Web site at http://www.eustis.army.mil/deploy/dea_home.asp .

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