

Figure 1: NASA Distinguished Service Medal - 1st Type - Obverse and Reverse

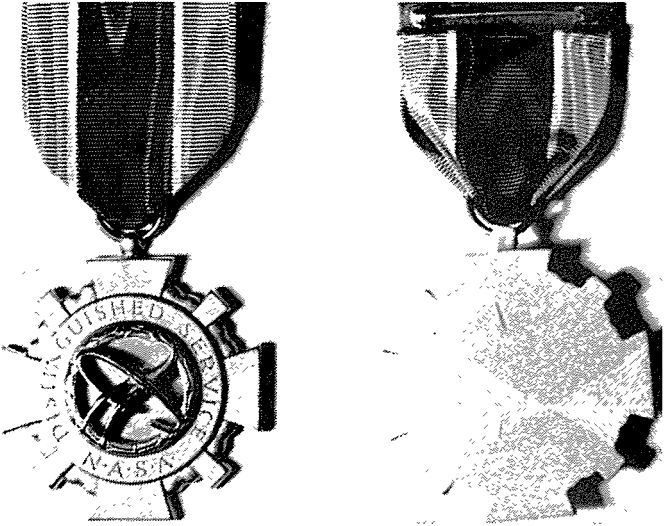


Figure 2: NASA Distinguished Service Medal - 2nd Type - Obverse and Reverse

NASA DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

The NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal (DPSM) was authorized in 1963 and first awarded in 1966. The DPSM is awarded to individuals whose contributions measurably improved, expedited, or clarified administrative procedures, scientific progress, work methods, manufacturing techniques, personnel procedures, public information services and other efforts relating to the accomplishment of the missions of NASA.

The DPSM is specifically designed to parallel the DSM and recognizes the contributions of citizens of the United States who are not employed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or other Federal government agencies.

NASA has been very conservative in awarding the DPSM. As of December 1988, only 140 Distinguished Public Service Medals had been awarded.

The ribbon is Sky-Blue/Gold/Sky-Blue/Dark Blue/Sky-Blue/Gold/Sky-Blue. See Figure 3.

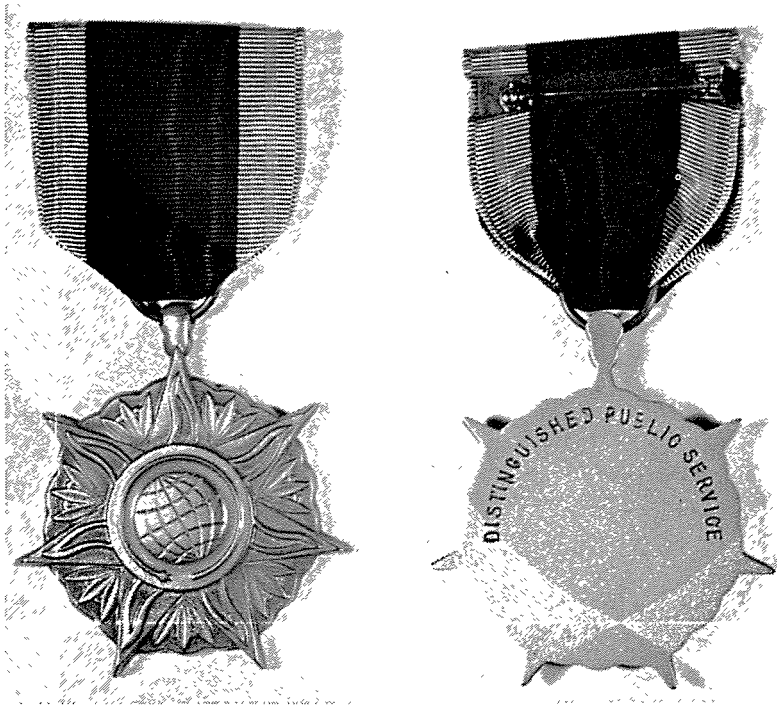


Figure 3: NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal - Obverse and Reverse

NASA OUTSTANDING SERVICE MEDAL

The Outstanding Service Medal (OSM) was established in 1959 for award to any individual serving in any capacity with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration who distinguished himself or herself by service, ability, or courage and who has made a significant contribution to the NASA mission or the interests of the United States.

The OSM is identical in design to the DSM, however the planchet is in silver rather than in gold. In many respects, the NASA OSM was similar in design and intent to the NACA Exceptional Service Medal. NASA intended the newly titled Outstanding Service Medal to recognize service or achievement which, although exceptional, was of a lesser degree than that which would warrant award of the Distinguished Service Medal.

Bowing to pressure from the Commission of Fine Arts, which had formally objected to the design of both the Distinguished Service Medal and the Outstanding Service Medal, the OSM was discontinued under a revised awards system introduced by NASA in September 1961. The only recipients of the OSM were Dr. Edward R. Sharp and Dr. H. J. E. Reid.

The ribbon of the Outstanding Service Medal is Sky-Blue/White/Sky-Blue/White/Dark Blue/White/Sky-Blue/White/Sky-Blue.

NASA EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE MEDAL

The NASA Exceptional Service Medal (ESM) was inherited from the NACA along with the DSM. Originally the ESM was authorized by NACA FPM Supplement, 1 May 1957 for significant scientific achievement, significant leadership in aeronautical science, significant contribution to public administration, and unusual courage or competence in an emergency.

NASA never decided on a final design for its version of the ESM before it decided to mothball the award. In 1961, amid pressure from the Commission for Fine Arts to develop awards which more suitably represented the achievements for which they were awarded, the NASA Incentive Awards Board decided to replace the ESM with three new awards: the Outstanding Leadership Medal, the Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal, and the Exceptional Bravery Medal.

After a three year absence, NASA reinstated the ESM in 1964. Under the most recent guidelines, the ESM is intended for award to any individual serving in any capacity with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration who distinguishes himself or herself by significant achievement or service characterized by unusual initiative or creative ability that clearly demonstrates substantial improvement in engineering, aeronautics, space flight or space related endeavors which contribute to the programs of NASA.

No awards of the NASA ESM occurred before it was discontinued in 1961. Between its reinstatement in 1964 and 1989, NASA awarded 3,181 Exceptional Service Medals.

The ribbon of the Exceptional Service Medal is Gold/Dark Blue/Gold/Sky-Blue/Gold/Dark Blue/Gold. See Figure 4.