

Outstanding College Council Award Application

DUE: JUNE 30

Application Instructions

The Supreme Council considers all relevant information about your council, your school, and the projects and activities you have conducted during the fraternal year when selecting the Outstanding College Council (OCC) winner. We weigh the engagement of your council, your membership intake, contributions to Catholic life on campus, involvement with the local community, new innovations and strategies for council management, and many other factors. We want to award the council that was truly outstanding all year long.

In addition to the Outstanding College Council Award, this award application determines the award winners of the best college council programs/events from the four Faith in Action categories. These categories are: Faith, Family, Community, and Life. Your council should complete this application even if you don't have any activities in a specific category (i.e. you have no family activities). We weigh many other factors in the OCC contest and you will still be eligible for awards in other categories.

In completing this application, be thorough and descriptive in your answers so that we can best understand your programs and events. **Focus on originality and creativity and highlight your council's innovations from this past fraternal year.** You may also submit photos of council activities, promotional flyers from events, and other supporting documentation with your application.

After completing the application, please sign the last page to certify the authenticity of your council's application. Submit your completed application and all supporting materials by email to college@kofc.org. In the subject line of the email, please include the words "Outstanding College Council Application," your council number and the name of your college or university. Please include any photos as attachments. Remember, **applications are due on June 30.**

All award winners will be announced at the annual College Councils Conference to be held in New Haven, Conn. You can find more information about the conference and register to attend by visiting kofc.org/collegeconference. The outstanding college council will receive a trophy to take back to campus, their name on the permanent outstanding college council award housed at the Blessed McGivney Pilgrimage Center, \$500 for the council treasury, and international exposure through kofc.org and affiliated publications.

In addition to this award application, your council should complete, to the best of its ability, the [Columbian Award Application](#) (#SP7).



SECTION I: COUNCIL INFORMATION

School: _____ Council #: _____

Does your school recognize your council as a registered student organization? If so, do you receive funding, meeting space, or other resources from them?

Do you receive funding, meeting space, or other support from a Newman or Catholic Student Center or Campus Ministry Office?

Has your council instituted any new strategies, best practices, policies or procedures to improve membership growth, billing, record keeping, communication, or other administrative tasks?

Does your council have it's own degree team? How many Exemplifications has your council held this Fraternal Year?

What were some challenges your council faced this year and how did it overcome them?

In what ways has this year been better than past years for your council? To what do you attribute your council's success?

What makes your council stand out from other college councils?

SECTION II: PROGRAMS

Faith Activity

This award recognizes the council with the best program that engages its Newman/Catholic Center or Catholic Campus Ministry Office. This award seeks to recognize the council that has made the most significant contributions to growing and serving the university's Catholic community as a whole.

Describe in the space provided the single best Faith Activity conducted by your council.

Project Title: _____

Date Project Conducted: _____

Total number of council members participating: _____

Total number of man hours (hours spent, multiplied by members participating) expended on project: _____

Project Description:

Family Activity

This award recognizes the council with the best family or men's faith formation activity. Winning programs may involve events such as working with community family centers, supporting a local family in need, or group discussion of Catholic family life topics. Additionally, in keeping with the five unique College Faith in Action programs, which replace Family Programs not applicable in the campus environment, men's faith formation events such as a wilderness retreat, men's lecture series, or bible study on issues faced by men are also eligible to for this award.

Describe in the space provided the single best Family Activity conducted by your council.

Project Title: _____

Date Project Conducted: _____

Total number of council members participating: _____

Total number of man hours expended on project: _____

Project Description:

Community Activity

This award recognizes the council with the best outreach to the local community. Winning programs may include a partnership with a well-established organization like Special Olympics or Habitat for Humanity or may support specific local needs of the campus' surrounding area.

Describe in the space provided the single best Community Activity conducted by your council.

Project Title: _____

Date Project Conducted: _____

Total number of council members participating: _____

Total number of man hours expended on project: _____

Project Description:

Life Activity

This award recognizes the council with the best programs to build and sustain a culture of Life. While the Supreme Council encourages college Knights to participate in March for Life activities, those events will not be considered as an award winner for this category as many college Knights already participate in national, regional and local marches. Work with local pregnancy crisis centers, nursing homes, ministry support of persecuted Christians abroad, and other programs promoting the dignity of life at all stages will be considered.

Describe in the space provided the single best Life Activity conducted by your council.

Project Title: _____

Date Project Conducted: _____

Total number of council members participating: _____

Total number of man hours expended on project: _____

Project Description:

SECTION III: ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

In Section II above, you were presented with the four categories in which we recognize outstanding programs. While the activities above are weighed in determining the winner of the Outstanding College Council Award, we understand that there are many other activities that, though they may not fit neatly into these four categories, should also be considered as part of the council's consideration for OCC. Please describe those events here. There is no limit on how much you can write, **please add pages as needed.**

SECTION IV: ATTESTATION

School: _____ Council #: _____

We the undersigned hereby certify that the information contained above is true and accurate.

Grand Knight_____
Financial Secretary or Chaplain_____
District Deputy or State Council Representative

**Since applications are due June 30 when most college campuses are on summer break, in lieu of a signature, any of the above parties may send an email to college@kofc.org acknowledging their review and acceptance of the application as submitted.*

Email a copy of this document to: college@kofc.org (Councils should also retain a copy of this completed form for their files)