



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

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Ohio Army National Guard earns top Army award for overall organizational excellence for fifth time

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Army National Guard has been selected by the Department of the Army as the 2015 Army Communities of Excellence Overall Winner, Army National Guard category. The award recognizes the organization's ongoing efforts in delivering value, improving performance and sharing innovation.

The Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) award was presented April 29 during a ceremony at the Army National Guard Readiness Center in Arlington, Va. This year, 41 of 54 U.S. state/territory National Guard commands submitted entries. This year's award marks the fifth time Ohio has won the competition, in addition to 2003-04, 2006 and 2009. Ohio also was NGB's 2002 Rookie of the Year.

"This achievement recognizes the hard work of our Soldiers in maintaining an organization that operates at the highest standards," said Maj. Gen. Mark Bartman, Ohio adjutant general. "The benefit of participating in the ACOE program goes beyond competition. Applying the ACOE principles has served as our approach by which we assess the Ohio Army National Guard, plan for the future, evaluate performance and continually improve work processes."

Ohio's award submission packet was evaluated by a team of certified examiners who scored the submission in the seven categories of the Army Performance Improvement Criteria (APIC) — Leadership; Strategic Planning; Customer Focus; Measurement, Analysis and Knowledge Management; Workforce Focus; Operations Focus; and Results.

By using criteria established for the Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award as a framework for performance assessment, the ACOE program helps participating Army installations/communities focus on providing excellence in facilities and services in support of Soldiers, their Families and civilians. Baldrige-based performance assessments provide opportunities to identify best practices in installation management and reveal potential opportunities to apply appropriate performance improvement tools.

In existence for 19 years, the ACOE program is sponsored by the Army Chief of Staff and overseen by the Army's Installation Management Agency.

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