



Dear Lodge Members:

DEADLINE: January 31, 2027

Enclosed is the Lodge Recognition Program for 2026.

We are offering Awards for Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze levels of participation. As introduced in previous years, there are four levels of categories with point requirements for each Award level. As always, documentation such as event photos, copies of checks, Thank-you cards, etc. must be submitted, except completed Options for Section IV, which the Home Office will document.

Award compensation is as follows: \$500 for Platinum, \$350 for Gold, \$250 for Silver, and \$150 for Bronze.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Fraternal Department at 800-543-3272 or email kdeegan@betterlifeins.com.

Best wishes for a successful and safe 2026!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Deegan'.

Kelly Deegan

Fraternal Programs Manager
kdeegan@betterlifeins.com

2050 Finley Road Suite 70, P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148 • Phone 1-800-779-1936

How to Complete the 2026 Lodge Recognition Program Forms

Step 1: Read the Lodge Recognition Program Breakdown and List of Options on pages 4 – 8.

Step 2: Fill-in the Award Requirements on page 3 regarding which award you are applying for.

Platinum Star Award – \$500	
	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 60 total points <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6 meetings held 25% of annual allocation donated: \$ <u>100</u>	

Step 3: Fill-in the tables on pages 9 – 12 regarding Option #, Points Earned, and Activity Description.

Lodge Recognition Submission for Lodge: Czech it Out #999
Social Engagement/Traditions/Rituals

Option #	Points Earned	Activity Description (Items must be included on this form to be counted; all items will be verified from submission to Home Office.)
1.	3pts.	Lodge Czech it Out hosted a craft night (social activity) with Sis. Caroline Doe, Sis. Jen Doe, Sis. Jan Den, and Sis. Karen Den present.

Step 4: Write the Option # on the documentation it proves (i.e. event photos, copies of checks, thank-you cards, etc.).





Award Requirements

CSA Fraternal Life

Phone: 1-800-779-1936

Attn: Fraternal Dept.
2050 Finley Rd. Suite 70
Lombard, IL 60148

www.csalife.com

Lodge Name: _____ Lodge No: _____

View the requirements for each award. Check the box of the Star Award you are applying for, determine the amount of your monetary donations (25% of annual allocation), and list the dates of your lodge meetings.

Platinum Star Award – \$500



60 total points
 6 meetings held
25% of annual allocation donated: \$ _____

Gold Star Award – \$350



46 total points
 5 meetings held
25% of annual allocation donated: \$ _____

Silver Star Award – \$250



38 total points
 4 meetings held
25% of annual allocation donated: \$ _____

Bronze Star Award – \$150



28 total points
 3 meetings held
25% of annual allocation donated: \$ _____

The dates our lodge meetings were held:

1. _____

7. _____

2. _____

8. _____

3. _____

9. _____

4. _____

10. _____

5. _____

11. _____

6. _____

12. _____



2026 CSA Fraternal Life Lodge Recognition Program

The Lodge Recognition Program was created to motivate the lodges of CSA Fraternal Life and to recognize them for their efforts to exhibit Equality, Harmony, and Fraternity to both our members and our communities. Awards for this program are granted to lodges that are well-rounded and meet criteria in four areas:

1. **Service/Volunteer Hours/Donations** – Serving our communities is what we do. This area measures lodges by how they activate members to improve the communities around them.
2. **Lodge Activities/Attendance** – Our organization consists of a nationwide network of lodges. We maintain our bond by engaging in activities that unite our members on a local and national level. Our activities keep our society strong while honoring our lodge system and Fraternal programs.
3. **Social Engagement/Traditions/Rituals** – Social activity is what keeps our members together. In addition, CSA's fraternal history consists of various traditions and rituals that make up the backbone of this Society.
4. **Lodge Reporting (Sound Operations)** – The strongest lodges are the ones that meet regularly, maintain best business practices, and operate consistently with the CSA Home Office and Fraternal Department.

NOTE: Required points have to be earned in each of these four categories to win an award.

Lodges with a healthy balance of the above criteria will be rewarded Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze.

Important: Please keep in mind that one point does not equal one option. You may select a single option that can be as little as one point or as many as four points. For example, trying to earn a Platinum Award does not mean you have to choose 60 options; rather, you have to **earn 60 total points**.

- To earn the **Platinum Award** (\$500 Award) designation, a lodge is required to earn **sixty (60)** points or more from the four categories, plus hold **6 lodge meetings** and donate **25% of its annual allotment to charity**.
- To earn the **Gold Award** (\$350 Award) designation, a lodge is required to earn **forty-six (46)** points or more from the four categories, plus hold **5 lodge meetings** and donate **25% of your annual allotment to charity**.
- To earn the **Silver Award** (\$250 Award) designation, a lodge is required to earn **thirty-eight (38)** points or more from the four categories, plus hold **4 lodge meetings** and donate **25% of your annual allotment to charity**.
- To earn the **Bronze Award** (\$150 Award) designation, a lodge is required to earn **Twenty-eight (28)** points or more from the four categories, plus hold **3 lodge meetings** and donate **25% of your annual allotment to charity**.

List of Options

BONUS: If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

I. Service Activities/Volunteer Hours/Donations

1. **2 points – Lodge coordinates or participates in an official Join Hands Day activity or makes a donation in lieu of activity.**
 - Minimum of 2 members must participate; can occur during any month (not just May).
 - Maximum is 2 points, 1 Join Hands Day activity.
2. **2 points – Lodge participates in “CSA Serves”.**
 - Must provide service hours and donations.
 - Donations must be at least 25% of the annual allocation, **and** the lodge must perform a minimum of 25 volunteer hours over the year. Donations can be made over a year’s time. 25 volunteer hours can be for one or more causes.
 - Minimum of 2 members must participate. Points will be awarded even if lodge members volunteer alone at the same project but at a different time. All hours will count towards the 25-hour minimum.
 - Maximum is 2 points.
3. **3 points – Lodge provides transportation to at least three (3) meetings for lodge member(s).**
 - Can be 1 or more drivers for 1 or more members.
 - A CSA member driving another member who is their family member/spouse will still receive points.
 - Maximum is 3 points.
4. **1 point – per Lodge member(s) participating in the Get-Together Service Project.**
 - May attend event, donate money, or donate goods to the Service Project.
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 3 members attend or donate.
5. **2 points – Lodge holds a fundraiser and raises \$100 for a charitable organization (other than CSA Fraternal Life).**
 - This total can be accumulated throughout the year.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., lodge raises \$200 for a charitable organization.
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 1 point per person.
6. **3 points – Lodge donates handmade or purchased items to a hospital, center, shelter, etc.**
 - Items include blankets, hats, mittens, scarves, clothing, **sheets, or personal care items etc.**
 - Maximum is 6 points, i.e., 2 donations.
7. **1 point – Lodge donates minimum \$50 to Emergency or Disaster Relief fund.**
 - Organizations include Red Cross, FEMA, Salvation Army, etc.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 2 donations.
8. **1 point – Lodge donates minimum \$50 to a Czech or Slovak cemetery.**
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 2 donations.
9. **1 point – Lodge sends medicine bottles, stamps, buttons, box tops, pop tops, etc. to charity, Home Office, or other lodge.**
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 3 donations.
10. **1 point – Lodge participates in the Thank a Driver program by donating \$10 Amazon gift card(s) from the Home Office to truck drivers or delivery persons.**

2 points – Lodge opts out of Amazon option and purchases gift cards from another source.

 - If receiving Amazon gift cards from CSA: Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 3 donations.
 - If buying your own gift cards: Maximum is 6 points, i.e., 3 donations.
11. **1 point – Lodge repays Home Office for the \$10 Amazon gift card(s) in the form of Scholarship Fund donation(s). **Note: If lodge chooses to purchase their own gift cards, they are ineligible to receive these points.****
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 3 repayments.
12. **2 points – Lodge donates \$50 to CSA Scholarship Fund.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., \$100 donation.

Points Needed:

Platinum	16 Points
Silver	10 Points
Bronze	8 Points



37

Maximum Points Available:

List of Options

Gold

BONI ~~12~~ **4 Points**
If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

Silver
Bronze

10 Points
8 Points

List of Options

BONUS: If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

II. Lodge Activities/Attendance

1. **2 points – Lodge creates a display on Czech or Slovak heritage/culture and shows it at a library, school, church, lodge meeting place, etc.**
 - Minimum of 2 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 displays.
2. **2 points – Members of your lodge attend another lodge's meeting, social event, or volunteer activity.**
 - May be a virtual meeting – Skype, FaceTime, video chat, etc.
 - Minimum of 2 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 meetings attended.
3. **2 points – Invite Members of another lodge, Miss CSA, or home office attend your lodge's meeting, social event, or volunteer activity.**
 - May be a virtual meeting – Skype, FaceTime, video chat, etc.
 - Minimum of 2 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 meetings attended.
4. **2 points – 1 youth member attends 3 meetings throughout the year.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 youth members attend 3 meetings throughout the year.
5. **3 points – Lodge “reactivates” 1 member who attends a minimum of 2 meetings.**
 - Reactivate = Member who has not attended a meeting in 12 months.
 - Maximum is 6 points, i.e., 2 reactivated members.
6. **2 points – Members attend, volunteer, work, or coach at a community / or another organization event.**
 - Includes: church event, sports game, pancake breakfast, spaghetti dinner, Fraternal Society event (CSA or non-CSA related), ethnic event, etc.
 - **Minimum of 1 member must participate.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 events.
7. **1 point – Per youth member participating in CSA Jr. Bowl-o-Rama.**
 - Youth can bowl with Lodge, District, or independently.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 4 youth members participating.
8. **2 points – Per lodge member attending Annual Get-Together.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 lodge members attending.
9. **1 point – Per submission by lodge member(s) for Photo Contest.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 4 members submitting photos.
10. **2 points – Lodge member shops for essential items for a neighbor, family, or friend.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e. 2 shopping trips.
11. **2 points – Lodge member purchases meal from restaurant for a neighbor, family, or friend.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e. 2 purchased meals.
12. **2 points – Lodge purchases gift card(s) priced at \$30 (or more) from local restaurant to use at a later date.**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e. 2 purchased gift cards.
13. **2 points – Lodge/DC takes out add for Get Together book (All Lodges who contributed)**
 - **Maximum is 4 points, i.e. 2 points for a half page and 4 for a full page add.**

Maximum Points Available: 54

Points Needed:

Platinum	16 Points
Silver	10 Points
Bronze	8 Points



List of Options

Gold

BONUS If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

Silver
Bronze

10 Points
8 Points

List of Options

BONUS: If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

III. Social Engagement/Traditions/Rituals

1. **3 points – Lodge hosts social activity (movie night, craft night, etc.)**
 - Minimum of 4 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 3 points.
2. **2 points – Lodge members attend a social outing (play, holiday party, bus trip, etc.)**
 - Minimum of 4 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 outings.
3. **2 points – Lodge members hold a competition at a regular lodge meeting, vote for a winner, and give an award or small monetary prize.**
 - Competition can include Yahtzee, seek & find, crossword puzzle, etc.
 - Minimum of 4 members must participate.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 competition.
4. **2 points – Lodge member's research and give a report or presentation on Czech or Slovak culture, traditions, etc.**
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 report or presentation.
5. **2 points – Conduct a Baby or Youth Naming Ceremony.**
 - Naming member can be up to 12 years old; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 Baby or Youth Naming Ceremony.
6. **2 points – Conduct a formal Installation of Officers.**
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 formal Installation of Officers.
7. **2 points – Conduct a Memorial Service for deceased members.**
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 Memorial Service.
8. **2 points – Conduct a Memorial or Funeral Service for a recently deceased member.**
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 Memorial or Funeral Service.
9. **3 points – Lodge invites an outside speaker to lecture or give presentation on topic of interest to lodge members.**
 - Minimum of 4 members must be in attendance.
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 1 lecture or presentation.
10. **2 points – Lodge hosts or attends 50-year or 75-year Pin Party (may occur at lodge meeting).**
 - Minimum of 4 members must participate; may be held via virtual meeting.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 1 Pin Party.
11. **3 points – Lodge submits a nominee for CSA Fraternalist of the Year.**
 - Maximum is 3 points, i.e., 1 nominee for CSA Fraternalist of the Year.
12. **2 points – Lodge member runs for Miss National CSA**
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 members run for Miss National CSA.
13. **2 points – Lodge fills out Lodge Phone Tree.**
 - Maximum is 2 points.

Maximum Points Available: 33

Points Needed:

Platinum	12 Points
Gold	10 Points
Silver	8 Points
Bronze	6 Points

List of Options

BONUS: If you have an excess of 4 points (max) in any category, you can apply these 4 points to another category.

IV. Lodge Reporting (Sound Operations)

Documentation NOT needed. Submissions verified by Home Office.

**** These options are REQUIRED to win ANY award.**

1. +1 BONUS point – Annual Financial Report submitted to Home Office by February 28, 2026.
2. **** 3 points – Annual Financial Report submitted to Home Office by March 31, 2026.**
3. **** 3 points – Annual Lodge Election Report sent to Home Office by December 31, 2026.**
4. 3 points – Lodge submits minimum 5 Lodge President's Reports by December 31, 2026.
5. 4 points – Lodge submits minimum 5 Journal articles with a photo during the year.
 - Additional photos do not count for additional points.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 5 Journal articles with a photo during the year.
6. 2 points – Lodge sends 2 brief articles and photos to Fraternal Department for Facebook post.
 - Maximum is 2 points, i.e., 2 brief articles and photos.
7. 2 points – Lodge sends 1 member's email contact to Home Office.
 - Maximum is 4 points, i.e., 2 members' email contact.
8. 4 points – Lodge prepares mailing and sends to members to promote attendance at meetings, social event, notice of deadline(s), encourage women to participate in the Miss National CSA Contest, etc.
 - Home Office will assist with member lists and blank envelopes.
 - Maximum is 8 points, i.e., 2 mailings.

Maximum Points Available: 28

Points Needed:

Platinum	16 Points
Gold	12 Points
Silver	10 Points
Bronze	8 Points

Items Highlighted in yellow are changes made

Except where noted, documentation MUST be submitted for each completed Option. Documentation can be a canceled check, photo, invitation, flyer, ticket stub, program, receipt, sign-in sheet, etc.

Deadline for submission: January 31, 2027



Lodge Recognition Submission for Lodge: _____

Service/Volunteer Hours/Donations

Option #	Points Earned	Activity Description (Include documentation of activities on separate page; CSA Serves project documentation will be verified from submission to Home Office.)



Lodge Recognition Submission for Lodge: _____

Lodge Activities/Attendance

Option #	Points Earned	Activity Description <i>(Include documentation of activities on separate page.)</i>



Lodge Recognition Submission for Lodge: _____

Social Engagement/Traditions/Rituals

Option #	Points Earned	Activity Description <i>(Items must be included on this form to be counted; all items will be verified from submission to Home Office.)</i>



Lodge Recognition Submission for Lodge: _____

Lodge Reporting (Sound Operations)

Option #	Points Earned	Activity Description <i>(Items must be included on this form to be counted; all items will be verified from submission to Home Office.)</i>