



December 5, 2009

Dear AAA School Safety Patrol™ Advisor or School Principal:

For 90 years, the AAA School Safety Patrol™ program has contributed to the development of young people across North America. The leadership program has assisted schools to provide a safer environment for attendees. Since 1949, AAA has focused attention on the safety benefits of this remarkable program by honoring extraordinary patrollers responsible for saving a life while on duty with the AAA Lifesaving Award. In 2002, AAA expanded the focus of our recognition by introducing the Patroller of the Year Awards. The AAA School Safety Patrol™ Charles M. Hayes Fund recognizes the National Patrol Advisor of the Year and offers approximately five grants to schools advancing their patrol program.

Your school can participate in the awards by honoring your AAA School Safety Patrollers, submitting an application for the Patrol Advisor of the Year or submitting for a program advancement grant. Please conduct the following procedures to communicate the contest details, criteria and generate enthusiasm for participation. Entry submission requirements and associated contest dates are detailed below.

### **Step 1 — Identify Qualified Candidates**

Capture the interest of students and other faculty members by announcing details of the awards and eligibility criteria. For more information, please contact **Terpse Gentile at 703-222-4112 or email [tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com](mailto:tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com)**, or visit [www.AAA.com/foundation](http://www.AAA.com/foundation) click on AAA School Safety Patrol for applications.

Qualified *Lifesaving Award* recommendations are supported by conclusive proof that between February 2009 and February 2010:

- The individual whose life was saved was in imminent danger.
- The lifesaving act was performed while the patrol member was on authorized safety patrol duty, school bus patrol duty, or traveling to or from a duty post.
- No negligence on the part of the patrol member caused or contributed to placing the rescued individual in the dangerous situation in which his or her life was saved.

Qualified *Patroller of the Year* nominations are supported by written evidence that during the current school year the nominee.

- Was a student in the highest grade level that participates in your AAA School Safety Patrol™.
- Consistently demonstrated leadership qualities, safety skills, school involvement, and citizenship/volunteerism.
- Is an exemplary model Patroller.
- New for 2010 - To deter the perception of favoritism, schools may nominate **more than one** student per school. Nominators may include the SSP advisor, school Principal, teacher, club representative or law enforcement officer. To simplify the nomination process, nominators may provide bullet point descriptions to support leadership, safety skills, school involvement and citizenship documentation.

***Keep in mind; this is unrelated to the Outstanding AAA School Safety Patrol Award that the Foundation and AAA Mid-Atlantic present patrols in May/June. This application will be sent to you in March.***

## Step 2 — Prepare Your Nominations

To participate in the Awards Program, simply determine the appropriate candidates and submit your nominations to **Terpse Gentile at (fax) 703-569-0803 or email**

[tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com](mailto:tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com) in accordance with the guidelines provided:

- **Lifesaving Award** - Any individual who witnesses or has reliable information regarding a lifesaving act may recommend qualified candidates to you, the AAA School Safety Patrol Advisor. We ask that you investigate the circumstances and, if appropriate, contact **Terpse Gentile at 703-222-4112 or email [tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com](mailto:tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com)** to submit a recommendation. New for 2010 - Suggested supporting documentation now includes a letter from the witness, a statement from the victim or parent and/or video documentation. All of these items strengthen the lifesaving case and have been recommended by former judges of the National Review Board.
- **Patroller of the Year Awards** - As the Patrol Advisor/School Official, you also are responsible for nominating Patroller of the Year Award candidates. The required materials include examples of the candidates' qualifications and an essay written by the nominees. Please see the enclosed Patroller of the Year brochure for more information about the qualifications and nomination procedures. New for 2010 - To deter the perception of favoritism, schools may nominate more than one student per school. Nominators may include the SSP advisor, school Principal, teacher, club representative or law enforcement officer. To simplify the nomination process, nominators may provide bullet point descriptions to support leadership, safety skills, school involvement and citizenship documentation.  
The winner of Patroller of the Year for each designated competition region will automatically be honored as a National Patroller of the Year. **This is not to be confused with our local AAA Mid-Atlantic Outstanding AAA School Safety Patrol Award.**
- **National Patrol Advisor of the Year** – One National Patrol Advisor will be chosen for exemplifying model advisor characteristics as well as their contributions to the safety skills, leadership skills and educational benefits instilled in patrollers. The required materials include examples of the candidate's qualifications and an essay written by the advisor. Please see the enclosed Patrol Advisor insert for more information about the qualifications and nomination procedures. The National Patrol Advisor of the Year will receive an expense-paid trip to the national awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. April 19-21, 2010.
- **AAA School Safety Patrol™ Advancement Grants** – Approximately five schools will be awarded with \$200 grants to expand their existing patrol programs. Advisors are responsible for completing the enclosed advancement grant form and submitting to **Terpse Gentile at 703-222-4112 or email [tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com](mailto:tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com)** by February 3, 2010.

## Step 3 — Enjoy the Rewards!

All AAA School Safety Patrol™ awards will be presented during the annual AAA School Safety Patrol™ Awards Event held in Washington, D.C. on April 19-21, 2010. **The Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education will provide, if desired, travel and hotel expenses for the award winner, a parent or guardian. School officials and police coordinators will be invited to attend the Awards luncheon on April 21, 2009 as guests of the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education.**

Get started NOW! If a lifesaving has occurred between February 2009 and the present, your patroller may qualify to receive a Lifesaving Award. Please contact **Terpse Gentile 703-222-4112 or email [tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com](mailto:tgentile@aaamidatlantic.com) or visit [AAA.com/foundation](http://AAA.com/foundation)** immediately to begin the process. Please remember to send us your most qualified candidate for the Patroller of the Year Awards before the **February 3, 2010**, nomination deadline! Don't forget to submit your nomination for the Patrol Advisor of the Year and an advancement grant for your school!