

MARAC USACA Award Rules

The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC) makes this award available to licensed amateurs (and SWLs on a heard basis) as follows:

A. Award Classes. The award is issued in seven different classes, each a separate achievement. If sufficient number of counties have been contacted, an applicant may apply for more than one class in the same application. Special endorsements will be provided for all one band or all one mode, if requested at the time of application.

Class	Number of counties required
USA 500	500
USA 1000	1000
USA 1500	1500
USA 2000	2000
USA 2500	2500
USA 3000	3000
USA 3077	ALL

B. Conditions

1. This award is available to all licensed amateurs everywhere in the world (and SWLs on a heard basis). The award is issued to an individual (or club) for all contacts made regardless of calls held, operating QTHs, or dates, except that all contacts must have been made from the same DXCC entity. The award is also available to SWLs on a heard basis but only if all contacts were heard from the same DXCC entity.

2. All contacts must be completed Valid Contacts by amateur radio.

3. Contacts using repeaters, satellites or phone patches are not valid for this award.

4. Contacts using remote station technology are permitted but only if: (a) All contacts are made over a direct RF path between the remote station and the station

contacted; (b) The remote station(s) is/are located in only one DXCC entity and this entity is the same as the QTH from which all non-remote contacts are made; and (c) The applicant was physically involved in each contact. Using computer software to complete a contact without the presence of the applicant is not allowed.

5. Submission of written or electronic confirmation of Valid Contacts is not required for this award. However, the MARAC Awards Secretary may, in his or her sole discretion, attempt to independently verify the bona fides of any contacts claimed and submitted for this award at any level and may determine whether to accept any contact as submitted or require further verification or submission of an additional contact for one or more claimed counties. The determination of the MARAC Awards Secretary is final and by submitting an application for this award, the applicant agrees to accept the decision of the MARAC Awards Secretary.

6. Use of Self-credit is not allowed for this award. (Self-credit is the ability for a mobile/portable operator to claim credit for their own needs in a county from which they transmit. Self-credit is allowed for many awards sponsored by MARAC, but Self-credit is NOT allowed for the United States of America County Award.)

7. Award levels and numbers previously awarded by CQ Magazine are valid for this award, and Valid Contacts used for those award levels may be applied to higher levels and numbers for this award. MARAC will not issue duplicate numbers for awards already received from CQ Magazine.

C. County Identity

1. The list of counties of the United States includes all of the Louisiana parishes, the four judicial districts of Alaska, and the counties of the other 48 states, including the 8 traditional counties in Connecticut. The official list of counties is subject to modification from time to time by the MARAC Board of Directors.

2. The applicant may assume that the QTH of a fixed station is as stated on qrz.com for that call sign unless the applicant has reason to believe the QTH may be different, in which case the applicant should contact the other station to ascertain the QTH at time of the QSO.

3. For Valid Contacts with a mobile or portable station, the applicant may (unless there is reason to believe otherwise) use the county indicated for that station at time of the QSO as reported on the <https://ch.w6rk.com> website or on similar websites used for spotting stations for county hunters.

4. If a Valid Contact is made with a station active in the Parks on the Air (POTA) program, the county in which the specified park is located may be used by the

applicant unless the specified park is located in more than one county in which case the applicant should contact the other station to ascertain the QTH at time of the QSO.

5. When a station is operating in an independent city, a national park, other federal enclave, or the District of Columbia, where the neighboring county lines do not extend into the area, then the contact with that station may be counted for any adjacent county. Only one adjacent county may be counted for the award.

D. Certificate available

1. A paper certificate suitable for framing is available by mail upon request and upon payment of the applicable fee.

2. In lieu of, or in addition to, a certificate provided by mail, an applicant may, upon request, receive a certificate in PDF form by email upon payment of the applicable fee.

E. Application

1. The application for this award must include the following:

- a. Current call sign of the applicant, and any former call signs used to make Valid Contacts for this award.
- b. Name of the applicant (as it will appear on the award certificate)
- c. Mailing address, email address (if applicable) and telephone number of the applicant.
- d. Date, time and call sign of the last Valid Contact used in the application
- e. A log of all Valid Contacts used in this application, including the date, time, band and mode with the call sign and county for each contact. The log must be sorted by state and county in each state in alphabetical order and include the total number of counties in each state.
- f. Identification of the award class requested, including any special endorsements requested.
- g. Request for either paper certificate or PDF certificate (or both).

2. The log may be a (legible) hand-written log, a computer printout or an email attachment. Digital logs may be in an ASCII or text file; Microsoft Works, Word, Excel or access file; MARAC logger, or other computer logging program output file, but only if the Awards Secretary is not required to have an application program in order to read the file. Handwritten logs will not be returned to the applicant.

3. The application should be submitted to the MARAC Awards Secretary by either:

a. Mail to: Phil Yasson, AB7RW, 13208 NE 5th Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98685

b. Email to: pyasson@pacifier.com

4. Payment of the applicable fee (in US Dollars only) for each award requested:

a. For a paper certificate to be sent by mail or other shipping method the fee is \$25 for MARAC members and \$35 for non-MARAC members, plus (in each case) the shipping charge. The applicant should contact the MARAC Awards Secretary to ascertain the applicable shipping charge.

b. For a certificate in PDF form sent by email the fee is \$5 for MARAC members and \$15 for non-MARAC members.

c. The fee should be paid by either:

a. Check or money order (payable to MARAC) mailed to: Bill Morgan, 12012 County Road 3000, Rolla, MO 65401. Include with the payment a message containing the applicant's call sign and the award requested.

b. Via Pay Pal to: treasurer@marac.org. Include in the message the applicant's call sign and the award requested.

5. By submitting an application, the applicant certifies that all counties listed in the application were contacted by the applicant in accordance with the rules of this award, and that the applicant will abide by the decision of the Awards Secretary in administering and interpreting these rules and the award program in general.

F. Additional provisions

1. Except as modified in the foregoing, the general rules for all MARAC awards apply to this award. Those rules can be found at marac.org/awards/award-rules.pdf

2. This award, and all applicable rules, may be amended or rescinded by the Board of Directors of MARAC at any time and without prior notice.

3. Applications for this award will be accepted beginning November 1, 2024.