GAVEL AWARD 2025 Chapter QUESTIONNAIRE

 Chapter name:

Chapter president's name:

Date:

Current membership:

Membership Last year:

 Number of new members joining this year (worth 1 point each):

Before September 30, 2025, how many business meetings will your chapter have conducted Since September 30, 2024 (worth 1 point each)?

How many members are registered with NFB-NEWSLINE®?

How many new users have signed up this year (worth 1 point each)?

 Does your chapter use social media? If so, please explain.

Is your chapter on the PAC plan? Also, how many individual members are on the PAC plan? (1 point for chapter and 1 point per member)

1. How does your chapter promote the goals, philosophy, and activities of the National Federation of the Blind among chapter members and the general public (worth up to 10 points)?

2. Civic Activities: Aside from participating in local, state, and national Federation activities, in what community programs have your chapter members been involved?Examples: social or political causes, religious institutions, Civic organizations, or student activities (worth up to 10 points). Be sure to give examples of how each activity demonstrates a blindness skill or promotes The National Federation of the Blind. Examples: “One member demonstrated the use of the KNFB reader to a person; one person explained a computer screen-reading program; Two members used Braille to read scripture in church; Five members used canes and guide dogs at a town meeting conducted by our member of Congress.”

3. In what forms of advocacy are your chapter members involved (worth up to 10 points)?  (The definition of advocacy that will be used is: public support or recommendation of a particular cause or policy. Synonyms are: support for, backing of, promotion of, campaigning for, pushing for, and arguing for.)

4. Please note that this question has three parts so that we can determine how closely our chapters and divisions are working together and how much we see ourselves as part of the state and national organizations. Be sure to answer each part of this question.

1. List all activities in which your chapter has participated with another chapter or division; How many members took part in each (worth up to 10 points)?

B. List all state-affiliate-sponsored activities in which your chapter has participated; How many members took part? (worth up to 10 points)?

C. List all events sponsored by the national organization in which chapter members have participated this year; how many took part in each (worth up to 10 points)?

5. What fundraising projects has your chapter engaged in during the past year (worth up to 10 points)?

A. Describe the extent to which chapter members take responsibility for such projects.

B. What role did outside organizations or sighted volunteers play in these activities?

6. Funding the projects and activities of the National Federation of the Blind at the local, state, and national levels is vitally important work for all of us. Answering the following questions will assist the awards committee to compute the percentages of financial support of each chapter. This will enable the committee to make useful comparisons.

1. What was your chapter's bank balance as of September, 2024? Balance as of September, 2025?

B. After subtracting all expenses associated with fundraising, how much money has your chapter raised during the year ending September 30, 2025?   How much money came in from all other sources during this period?

C. How much money has your chapter contributed to the state affiliate during this period (worth up to 10 points)?

D. How much money has your chapter contributed to the national organization during this period (worth up to 10 points)

7. Describe what your chapter has done to promote the legislative initiatives of the National Federation of the Blind. This could include inviting a public official to a chapter meeting, writing letters, making phone calls, etc. (worth up to 10 points)

8. Take no more than two paragraphs to discuss the ways in which your chapter is a stronger part of the National Federation of the Blind today than it was a year ago (worth up to 10 points).