

Joslin Diabetes Center's Medal Program

Thank you very much for your interest in Joslin Diabetes Center's Medal Program. Enclosed please find all of the information you will need to apply for a 25-Year Certificate or our 50- and 75-Year Medals, including a single application that can be used for all three awards.

Below are some facts about Joslin Diabetes Center's Medal Program. The awards are presented on an ongoing basis to people with diabetes who have been insulin-dependent continuously for at least 25 years.

- Since the program began in 1970, Joslin has awarded approximately 2,400 50-Year Medals.
- Also since this time, more than 550 certificates have been awarded to people who have been insulin-dependent for 25 to 49 years.
- Joslin Diabetes Center has awarded medals to recipients throughout the world—including individuals from Australia, Brazil, Canada, England, Hungary, Japan, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, South America, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.
- From 1996-2005, Joslin has also awarded 17 distinctive 75-Year medals to 10 men and six women who lived in Mass., R.I., Fla., Conn., Wash., Pa., Ga., Wis., Va., Ind., N.Y., Ohio, Md., and one international award to a woman in New Zealand.

For more information about the program, please contact:

Medalist Program Coordinator
Joslin Diabetes Center, Suite 745
One Joslin Place
Boston, MA 02215

Phone: (617) 732-2412
Fax: (617) 732-2692
E-mail: medals@joslin.harvard.edu



25-YEAR CERTIFICATE OR 50-YEAR MEDAL CRITERIA

The 25-year medal began in 1948 as the “Victory Medal.” The name was changed in the early 1950s to the “Blue Ribbon.” Today, Joslin Diabetes Center awards the “25-Year Certificate of Achievement” to individuals who have been insulin-dependent for 25 consecutive years.

Since 1970, Joslin Diabetes Center has also awarded a 50-year bronze medal and certificate to recognize the remarkable achievement of a successful life with insulin-dependent diabetes for half a century or more. A few years later, with our cooperation, Eli Lilly and Company also started to present a similar award.

There are no physical qualifications for these awards. However, good documentation of the date of diagnosis of diabetes and particularly the date of beginning of insulin treatment is helpful. We suggest one of the following two forms of documentation for the certificate or medal candidate:

Preferred Documentation

- **Photocopy of discharge summary from the hospital where insulin treatment began or photocopy of a current medical record that states the date of diabetes diagnosis.**
Applicants* can request this information from the Medical Records department of the hospital where they were treated. Quite often, records of admission from so long ago have been destroyed. In this case, ask if the hospital has index cards on file with the same type information. These cards often document the name of the patient, address, dates of admission, diagnosis and sometimes also insulin treatment. A photocopy of this type of card is also an acceptable form of documentation. *Please note that due to patient privacy laws, if the person requesting the medical records is not the patient him/herself, an “Authorization for Release of Personal Health Information Form” signed by the patient is required. The form is included in this packet.

Alternate Documentation (choose one of the following)

- A letter from the physician who started the applicant on insulin at diagnosis (letter should include dates) or a letter from an associate who has carried on the original physician’s practice (provided that the associate has access to the original files).
- If the applicant kept a diary of urine and blood tests, diet, insulin, etc. during the early stages of insulin treatment photocopies of these dated records are acceptable documentation.
- Some applicants are unable to obtain any of the forms of documentation listed above. In these cases, we will also accept letters of recommendation from two or three of the applicant’s relatives or friends (usually people older than or the same age as the applicant) who can recall the onset of the applicant’s diabetes and insulin treatment. When possible, letters should include references to family and/or local or national events that occurred around the same time to confirm the date in question.

In addition to providing documentation, please complete and return the enclosed application. All correspondence, including the completed application and documentation from any of the above sources should be mailed to: Medalist Program Coordinator, Suite 745, Joslin Diabetes Center, One Joslin Place, Boston, MA 02215. If you have any questions, please call (617) 732-2412, fax (617) 732-2692, or e-mail medals@joslin.harvard.edu.



**APPLICATION FOR 25-YEAR CERTIFICATE,
50-YEAR MEDAL, AND 75-YEAR MEDAL**

NAME: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

MARITAL STATUS: _____ **TELEPHONE NUMBER:** _____

NAME AND ADDRESS AT TIME OF DIAGNOSIS OF DIABETES (if different from above):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF HOSPITAL WHERE FIRST TREATED:

DATE INSULIN TREATMENT BEGAN: _____

HAS INSULIN BEEN TAKEN CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT TIME? YES___NO___

PRESENT INSULIN TYPES AND DOSE: _____

(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT PHYSICIAN:

ASSESSMENT OF DEGREE OF CONTROL OF DIABETES OVER THE YEARS:

EXCELLENT _____ GOOD _____ FAIR _____ POOR _____

**IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE FOUND ELIGIBLE FOR THE CERTIFICATE,
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR NAME PRINTED ON THE CERTIFICATE?**

HAVE YOU ENCLOSED COPIES OF YOUR DOCUMENTATION? YES ___ NO _____

**IS THE DOCUMENTATION BEING SENT FROM THE HOSPITAL OR DOCTOR'S
OFFICE DIRECTLY? YES _____ NO _____**

REMARKS:

DATE

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Please return completed application to:

Medalist Program Coordinator
Joslin Diabetes Center, Suite 745
One Joslin Place
Boston, MA 02215