



## PHMC Historical Marker Nomination FAQs

### **Q: Who decides whether my application is approved?**

A: The PHMC Staff Marker Committee and the Marker Review Panel review each nomination and evaluate it using the Evaluation Rubric. They then make recommendations to the Commission, which votes on whether a nomination is approved, not approved, or recommended for resubmission.

To learn more about the PHMC Staff Marker Committee, the Marker Review Panel, and the Commission, please review our [Guidelines](#).

### **Q: Will staff review my application?**

A: Yes. Marker Program staff are available to answer questions and provide feedback at multiple points in the process. We require applicants submit a [pre-application](#) to receive initial feedback.

After the final deadline, the PHMC Staff Marker Committee formally reviews and evaluates each nomination using the [Evaluation Rubric](#).

Questions may be sent to [ra-phmarkers@pa.gov](mailto:ra-phmarkers@pa.gov).

### **Q: Are all marker applications approved? How many are approved each year?**

A: No, not all applications are approved. Nominations must meet PHMC's Marker Criteria and follow the [Nomination Guidelines](#). The PHMC Staff Marker Committee and Marker Review Panel evaluate each nomination using the [Evaluation Rubric](#) and submit recommendations to the Commission, which makes the final decision.

There is currently no limit on the number of markers approved in each cycle; however, historically, about two-thirds (2/3) of applications meet the criteria and are approved.

### **Q: How do I know if my subject will be approved?**

A: There is no guarantee that your nomination will be approved. To improve your chances, we recommend carefully reviewing all nomination materials—including the Marker Criteria, Guidelines, and YouTube tutorials—submitting a pre-application, requesting feedback on a draft nomination, and submitting the final nomination by the April 1 deadline.

All materials are available on our [Nomination](#) page.

### **Q: Can my elected officials submit letters of support?**

A: Yes, but such letters generally do little to strengthen a nomination. One to three (1–3) letters of support from subject-matter experts or organizations connected to the topic are more effective in demonstrating historical significance and community support.

**Q: I am having trouble with PA-SHARE**

A: If you experience technical issues using PA-SHARE, please review our [Help Desk tutorials](#), or email our Help Desk at [pashare@pa.gov](mailto:pashare@pa.gov).

**Q: When will I know if my application is approved?**

A: The PHMC Staff Marker Committee and Marker Review Panel complete their evaluations and meet in August to finalize recommendations for the Commission's December meeting. Applicants are notified of the Commission's decisions in late December or early January.

**Q: What if I want to replace a missing marker?**

A: You do not need to submit a new nomination to replace a missing marker. Please follow our guidelines for [reporting a missing or damaged marker](#).