In order to qualify for the Columbian Award, your council must:

1. Annually conduct and report at least **four (4) major involvement** programs in each of the sections: Community Programs, Faith Program, Family Programs, and Life Programs.

2. Recommended programs and the required program for each category are listed on the application. Councils are permitted to report programs that are not part of the recommended group as long as the program is reported in the proper category.

3. If your council reports a featured program in any category, ensure that the program’s minimum requirements are met and reported on the designated form in order to receive credit for two activities in that category. The minimum requirements for each featured program are located in the *Faith In Action Guidebook* (#10590).

4. Submit the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728). **New councils instituted after November 1 of the current fraternal year do not need to meet this requirement.**

5. Submit the *Service Program Personnel Report* (#365) with required roles and meet the Safe Environment Program compliance requirement. The most efficient way for submission is by using the Member Management Application.

6. Maintain compliance with the Safe Environment Program throughout the fraternal year. Report all updates for the Community Director, Family Director, and Program Director roles in a timely manner so that training and background checks can be completed before the end of the fraternal year.

Volunteering and charitable outreach are the products of successful programs and should be reported on the *Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity* (#1728).

All reported programs should be tangible actions performed by council that engage the membership base, enhance faith and spirituality, and strengthen family life within the parish.

*Examples of activities that should not be reported on the Columbian Award application: Eucharistic minister, lector, ushers, choir, coaching, school board volunteering, donations (monetary and goods), scholarships, sponsoring of trips and teams, etc.*