

Vestermark Psychiatry Educator Award

Overview

The Vestermark Psychiatry Educator Award recognizes excellence, leadership, and creativity in the field of psychiatric education and is given annually to a psychiatric educator for outstanding contributions to the education and development of psychiatrists. The award was established in 1969 in memory of Seymour Vestermark, M.D., chief of the National Institute of Mental Health Training Branch from 1948 to 1959 and an authority in the field of professional mental health education. The award concentrates on the field of psychiatric education in its broadest context, with special emphasis on preparation of teachers, use of new educational tools, and improved teaching techniques in the field of mental health.

Eligibility

APA members that are in medical education.

Nominations

- A call for nominations will be put out each year.
- Nominations should be submitted using the outlined submission process.
- Nominations by a colleague or department Chair are accepted.

Nominations must include the following information:

1. Cover sheet to include:
 - a. Nominee Name, Email, Preferred phone number.
 - b. Nominator Name, Email, Preferred phone number (if not a self-nomination).
2. Abbreviated CV (maximum two pages) – including publications and documentation of experience as an educator.
3. Letter of recommendation
4. Maximum two-page narrative, demonstrating how the nominee exemplifies the selection criteria.

Selection Evaluation Criteria

Nominees for this award should have demonstrated evidence of work that includes contributions to medical education in the following areas:

- Medical student education
- Graduate education
- Continuing education
- Interdisciplinary programs
- Research in education

Innovations in education:

- Improved teaching methods
- Improved or new methods and strategies in evaluation

- Exploration in new and/or neglected areas
- Relation of education to service delivery and/or labor use

Administrative educational contributions, e.g., leadership in educational components of local and national academic organizations and/or institutions:

- Publications related to education
- Duration and intensity of commitment to psychiatric education
- Peer evaluation (comments of colleagues, supervisors, etc.), student evaluation, and other awards, prizes, or commendations received

[Selection Committee](#)

The Selection Committee is comprised of four APA members appointed by the President-elect.

The committee uses the above evaluation criteria to score each nominee on a scale of 1-5. Scores are then compiled into cumulative and average scores. Following final selection by the committee, recommendations are submitted to the Joint Reference Committee and Board of Trustees for final approval.

[Submission Deadline](#)

All submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. of the published deadline date during the open call for nominations. Submissions will not be considered if they are incomplete or submitted after the deadline.

[Notification and Award Announcement](#)

Award recipients are notified no later than January 31st.

Awardee will receive the award and give an award lecture at the APA Annual Meeting. Awardees will also be posted on [APA's website](#).

[Contact](#)

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