2022 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS PRACTICE AWARDS
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Deadline Extension: August 1, 2021

APA’s Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) seeks nominations for its Distinguished Professional Contributions awards. All nominees must have excellent overall personal and professional reputations. Nominees should not have received disciplinary action from a state board of examiners in psychology and must have no history of ethical violations at the state or national level.

For each award, nominators should provide a detailed narrative statement of no more than 300 words on the nature of the contributions and focus of the nomination and an up-to-date curriculum vitae (or resume) and bibliography. Endorsements from other individuals or groups are encouraged. Also, nominators of award winners will be responsible for preparing a 100-word award citation. Note: there are additional requirements for the APA/APAGS Award for Distinguished Graduate Student in Professional Psychology.

Please send nomination materials for all categories to Bethel Yeshiwas, Program Coordinator, Practice Transformation and Quality at byeshiwas@apa.org.

Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Applied Research

The Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Applied Research is given to a psychologist whose research has led to important discoveries or developments in the field of applied psychology. To be eligible, this research should have led to innovative applications in an area of psychological practice, including but not limited to assessment, consultation, instruction, or intervention (either direct or indirect). Research involving the original development of procedures, methodologies, or technical skills that significantly improve the application of psychological knowledge and provide direct and immediate solutions to practical problem areas will be considered, as will research that has informed psychologists on how better to observe, define, predict, or control behavior. Original integration of existing theories or knowledge is also eligible for consideration.

Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Independent Practice

The Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Independent Practice is intended to recognize outstanding independent practitioners in psychology. Nominations will be considered for psychologists working in any area of clinical specialization, health services provision, or consulting, and services provided to any patient population or professional clientele in an independent setting. Services provided to diverse client groups or patient populations, including but not limited to children/adolescents/adults/older adults; urban/rural/frontier populations; minority populations; and persons with serious mental illness will be considered. Contributions may be judged distinguished by virtue of peer recognition, advancement of the public’s recognition of psychology as a profession, relevant professional association honors, or other meritorious accomplishments denoting excellence as a practitioner including advancement of the profession.
APA Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Institutional Practice

The APA Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Institutional Practice is intended to recognize outstanding practitioners in psychology. Nominations will be considered for psychologists working in a wide variety of institutional practice settings (e.g. schools, military, state hospital, Department of Veterans Affairs, etc.). Services provided to diverse client groups or patient populations, including but not limited to children/adolescents/adults/older adults; urban/rural/frontier populations; minority populations; and persons with serious mental illness will be considered. Contributions may be judged distinguished by virtue of peer recognition, advancement of the public’s recognition of psychology as a profession, relevant professional association honors, or other meritorious accomplishments denoting excellence as a practitioner including improvement of institutional service delivery systems or development of psychologically informed public policy.

APA/APAGS Award for Distinguished Graduate Student in Professional Psychology

APA/APAGS Award for Distinguished Graduate Student in Professional Psychology is awarded on an annual basis by BPA and the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS) to a graduate student who has demonstrated outstanding practice and application of psychology. A qualified candidate must demonstrate exemplary performance in working with an underserved population in an applied setting or have developed an innovative method for delivering health services to an underserved population. Nominees may have received their doctoral degree at the time of nomination provided that accomplishments for the award were achieved while a graduate student. Eligible candidates are encouraged to apply from all psychology sub-specialties (e.g., clinical, counseling, organization, school, health) and can be self-nominated or nominated by an APA member. However, all self-nominations must be endorsed by an APA member who serves the function of a nominator.

Each applicant must submit a summary of no more than 1,000 words regarding their work with an underserved population that must include a description of the student’s work with this population, the status of the underserved population and number served, nature of psychological services/work done and its impact on addressing the needs of the identified population. In addition, nominees are expected to identify why the group they have worked with is considered underserved. Applicants must also submit a curriculum vitae, a letter of support from a member of APA and, in the instance of a self-nomination, verification that the endorser will serve the role and complete the functions of a nominator.

Attention Nominators: The nominator/endorser will be expected to prepare the text for the award citation, attend the APA Annual Convention (at his or her own expense), serve as chair of the winner’s award address, introduce the award recipient, and prepare the written introduction for any APA publications wishing to publicize the award.