

A graphic of a spotlight in the top left corner, casting a yellow beam of light towards the title.

Shine a Light on Outstanding Work: Nominate for the 2026 EACE Awards

Awards Sub-Committee:

- Co-Chair: Jennifer Friary, Iona University
- Co-Chair: Jodi Schneiderman, Georgetown University
- Member: Caitlin Bach, Muhlenberg College
- Member: Justin Krass, Seton Hall University
- Member: Beth Settje, University of Connecticut - Storrs
- Board Liaison: Amy Smith, Touro University

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EACE Annual Awards: Call for Nominations



2026 EACE Awards — Nominations Now Open



Each year, EACE recognizes outstanding contributions to career services and recruitment through the Excellence and Service Awards.



From exceptional colleagues and innovative programs to impactful partnerships, these awards honor those driving excellence across our region.



Submit a nomination to spotlight the impactful work of EACE members and the broader career services and recruiting community.

Award Nomination Categories

- **Excellence Awards:** *Open to both EACE members and non-members*
 - Program Development & Innovation Award
 - Diversity & Inclusion Award
 - Technology Award
 - Employer Partnership Award
- **EACE Member Services Awards:** *Only open to EACE Members*
 - Rising Star Award (within first three years of membership)
 - Outstanding Member Award (at least three years of membership)
 - Tribute Award (at least six years of membership)
 - Distinguished Leadership Award

Nomination FAQs

Nomination Period

January 1 – February 1, 2026

How to Submit a Nomination

- Visit the EACE Awards webpage during the nomination period.
- Select the appropriate award category and click **Submit a Nomination**.
- You must log in as an EACE member to access the nomination form.

Award Criteria

- Excellence Awards: Program need and objectives, content, design, creativity, innovation, and measurable outcomes
- Member Awards: Demonstrated commitment to and impact on EACE; some awards require a minimum number of years of affiliation

Eligibility Requirements

- All **nominees** must be active EACE members
- Recipients of the Excellence Awards are not required to be active members; however, nominations must be submitted by a current member.
- Eligibility can be verified through the EACE membership directory
- Members of the EACE Board of Directors and current Awards Sub-Committee members are not eligible

Additional Nomination FAQs

Can I submit nominations in more than one category?

Yes. You may submit nominations in multiple award categories. Please review each award's criteria to ensure the nominee meets the guidelines.

Who can submit a nomination?

Any individual with an active EACE membership may submit a nomination, including self-nominations and nominations of colleagues or past or present committee members.

How can I verify EACE membership status?

You may check someone's EACE member status by searching the [online membership directory](#).

The committee members will also review years as a member and their history of involvement with EACE.

Will all nominees be notified?

Yes. All nominees will be contacted in March, and award recipients will be notified in April. Recipients will be recognized during a formal presentation at the EACE Annual Conference.

Participation is encouraged but not required to receive an award.

What Makes a Strong Submission?

- Clearly aligning accomplishments with the stated award criteria.
- Verifying eligibility requirements for submission to applicable Excellence and/or Member Awards, as appropriate..
- Demonstrating measurable impact on EACE, the profession, and/or the broader community
- Providing context regarding your role, institution, organization, or partnership with EACE.
- Highlighting the scope, significance, and outcomes of contributions.
- Describing results using clear, accessible, and outcome-focused language.

Best Practices for Nomination Writing

Be concise and focused

Use clear, direct language and avoid unnecessary detail. Well-organized responses help reviewers quickly understand the nominee's impact.

Address both the “what” and the “how”

What did the nominee accomplish? Describe specific initiatives, programs, leadership roles, or contributions relevant to the award criteria. How were these accomplishments achieved? Highlight leadership, collaboration, innovation, and professional judgment.

Explain results and impact

Describe outcomes in concrete terms whenever possible. Consider questions such as:

- What changed as a result of this work?
- Who benefited, and how?
- How did this contribution advance EACE's mission or strengthen the profession?

Demonstrate excellence

Clearly articulate how the nominee's contributions exceed expectations or standard practice, and why their work stands out among peers.

Be specific and accessible

Avoid assuming familiarity with institutional structures, acronyms, or specialized terminology. Provide sufficient context so all reviewers can fully understand the nominee's work.

Avoid vague generalities

Statements such as “exceptional leader” or “highly dedicated” should be supported by specific examples that illustrate these qualities in action.

Additional Nominator Guidelines



Confidentiality

Nominator information is not shared with the Leadership & Recognition Committee during the review process.



Response Length

Narrative responses are limited to a maximum of 500 words.



Optional Supporting Materials

Nominators may include a supporting link or webpage to help the committee better understand and evaluate the nominee's impact. Supplemental materials must be provided in an electronic format suitable for attachment to the online nomination form.



Conflict of Interest

Committee members recuse themselves from reviewing nominations where a conflict of interest exists.

Q&A

Please contact the Awards Sub-Committee Co-Chairs with questions:

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