POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL THERAPIST FELLOW AWARD BOD Y10-18-02-03

Purpose of the Award
The Outstanding Physical Therapist Fellow Award would honor recent fellowship graduates in order to recognize the intrinsic value of postprofessional training, and thereby promote and provide for the development and accreditation of fellowship education programs in physical therapy.

Eligibility Requirements
Nominees must meet all of the following requirements:
1. Be active APTA members in good standing at the time of nomination and selection;
2. Be within 2 years immediately following graduation from a fellowship program accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE). This period includes the 1 year preceding the nomination;
3. Be nominated by a representative of an ABPTRFE-accredited physical therapist residency and/or fellowship education accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE). Self nominations are not permitted for this award; and
4. Be licensed or regulated if required by the jurisdiction where the individual is practicing.

Criteria for Selection
Nominees must have:
1. Evidence of current and potential contributions to the physical therapy profession;
2. Exemplify ethical standards of professional conduct and the core values that distinguish physical therapy as a caring profession;
3. Demonstrated promotion of best practice patterns within clinical practice through teaching, mentoring and scholarly work;
4. Contributions to the American Physical Therapy Association at the national, component, and/or district levels;
5. Dedicated service to the community through activities that enhance quality of life, function, and societal well-being;

Procedure for Nomination
1. Nominations must be submitted electronically via APTA’s designated awards platform (detailed instructions can be found at www.apta.org). All materials completed and submitted for each nomination must be received by the APTA Honors & Awards Program by 5:00 pm ET on December 1 of the year preceding announcement of the award.
2. The nominator is responsible for reviewing and ensuring the completion of all steps and compliance with the eligibility criteria within the online nomination submission process before its final submission. During the online process, the following documents will be required for upload:
   a. Completed application form.
   b. Graduation certificate from the nominee’s program confirming enrollment and successful graduation. The certificate must be included in the nomination package upon submission.
   c. A completed narrative description (not to exceed 1 page) from the nominee. The narrative’s content should focus upon the nominee’s experience within their respective program and its significance or effect upon their future goals in the profession.
   d. Letter of nomination (from the nominee’s program director or faculty member) that specifically focuses on the strength of the nominee in relation to the award criteria, not to exceed 3 pages.
e. Two letters of support, not to exceed 2 pages each, obtained from individuals who can specifically address 1 or more of the criteria for selection. One of these letters must be provided by a faculty member or mentor at the nominee’s program.

Notification of Award
1. The award recipient and nominator will be notified promptly after selection by APTA’s Board of Directors.
2. The nominators of individuals not selected will receive a letter thanking them for their participation.

Nature of Award
An award will be presented to the awardee by APTA’s Board of Directors at the NEXT Conference and Exposition, and an official announcement of the award will appear in an association publication.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:
BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.