POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE LUCY BLAIR SERVICE AWARD BOD Y08-17-05-10

History

In 1969, the Lucy Blair Service Award was established to honor the contributions of Lucy Blair, who served the American Physical Therapy Association from 1950 to 1969 as Poliomyelitis Consultant, Chief of Professional Services, Associate Director, and Executive Director. She was also a recipient of the Mary McMillan Lecture Award. In 1969, the first Lucy Blair Service Award was presented to Ms. Blair at APTA’s annual conference in San Francisco, California.

Lucy Blair (deceased 1985) received her physical therapy education at Harvard Medical School and joined the association in 1930. Before joining the staff of APTA, she was a physical therapist with the Visiting Nurse Associations of Boston and Milwaukee, with the Wisconsin Bureau of Handicapped Children, the US Navy (during World War II), and the Joint Orthopedic Nursing Advisory Service in New York City.

During the poliomyelitis epidemic in the early 1950s, Ms Blair personally directed the role of the association and the profession in evaluating the efficacy of gamma globulin and, later, the poliomyelitis vaccine. She had personal contact with several hundred physical therapists in 40 states and 3 Canadian provinces, which strengthened the quality of physical therapy services nationwide. What endeared Lucy Blair most to so many people were her personal qualities: "unswerving dedication, self-sacrifice without limit, an infectious enthusiasm, strong personal and professional values, a sharp wit and sense of humor, and a genuine interest and concern for every individual she met." Based on these enduring qualities of Lucy Blair, each recipient of this award is given a pin with 3 stones that represent her dedication, devotion, and outstanding service to the American Physical Therapy Association.

Purpose

To acknowledge and honor physical therapist members of the association whose contributions to the association as a whole, at both the national and component levels, like those of Lucy Blair, have been of exceptional value.

In addition to the information provided in the APTA Board of Directors' Policy and Procedures Regarding APTA Honors and Awards, the following criteria apply to this award:

Criteria for Eligibility

1. Nominees must be physical therapists who are Physical Therapist or Life Physical Therapist members of the association.

2. Current members of the APTA Board of Directors and members of the APTA Awards Committee’s Practice and Service Awards Subcommittee are not eligible to be nominated for this award and shall not nominate, write letters of support, or endorse an individual for this award.
Criteria for Selection

1. Contributions and service should be of exceptional value to the association:

   A. May be in the realm of any area(s) of concern to the association as a whole, to the association's components or elements relative to the national association.

   B. May be those made through an individual's service on 1 or more elected or appointed groups, or in 1 or more elected or appointed positions, and/or in 1 or more other capacities at the national and component levels of the association.

   C. A nominee’s service will be judged based on the results of that individual's service and not merely the duration or continuity of that service.

Procedure for Nomination

1. Nominations must be submitted electronically via APTA’s website (www.apta.org). All materials completed and submitted for each nomination must be received by the APTA Honors and Awards Program by 5:00 pm ET on December 1 for consideration for 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. Current curriculum vitae or resume of the nominee.

   B. A letter of nomination (from the nominator) that specifically focuses on the strengths of the nominee in relation to the award criteria, not to exceed 3 pages.

   C. Four letters of support, not to exceed 2 pages each, obtained from individuals who can specifically address 1 or more of the criteria for selection.

Procedure for Review and Selection

1. The Practice/Service Subcommittee of the Awards Committee shall use a standard review measurement tool for ranking each nominee during the review process and shall report to APTA Board of Directors (Board) its recommendation(s), if any, with brief support statements, for the selection of 1 or more of the nominees to receive the Lucy Blair Service Award.

2. The Board shall review and discuss recommendations and select Lucy Blair Service Award recipients. The selection of each Lucy Blair Service Award recipient shall be by a confidential ballot vote of the Board, with a majority of Board members voting in the affirmative for selection.

Notification of Award

1. The award recipient(s) and nominator(s) will be notified promptly after selection by the APTA Board of Directors.

2. The nominators of individuals not selected will receive a letter thanking them for their participation.
Nature of Award

A framed certificate of recognition and the Lucy Blair Service Award pin will be presented to the awardee(s) by the APTA Board of Directors at the association’s annual conference, and an official announcement 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.