

**Background and Purpose:** The Dean's Excellence in Academics Award is a distinguished honor designed to acknowledge and celebrate faculty employees who exemplify outstanding support and assistance within academic environments. This award recognizes individuals who go above and beyond to enhance the academic experience for faculty, students, and researchers across various educational settings, including academic programs, libraries, laboratories, and other key areas. One (1) individual award may be presented for the Dean's Excellence in Academics Award.

**Criteria for Award:**

**Exceptional Support and Assistance:** The recipient should demonstrate a consistent commitment to providing exceptional support and assistance to faculty, students, and researchers. This may include mentoring students, offering guidance to faculty members, providing resources and tools for research and teaching, and facilitating access to academic resources and services.

Advancement of Academic Mission: The candidate should actively contribute to advancing the overall academic mission of the institution towards excellence. This may involve participating in curriculum development, designing innovative teaching methods, fostering a culture of academic excellence, and promoting scholarly activities and research initiatives.

Impact on Faculty, Students and Researchers: The recipient's contributions should have a tangible and positive impact on faculty, students, and researchers within the academic community. This may be demonstrated through testimonials, feedback, or evidence of improved academic outcomes, student success, and research productivity.

Innovation and Creativity: The candidate should demonstrate innovation and creativity in their approach to supporting academic programs and initiatives. This may include implementing new strategies or technologies to enhance teaching and learning, developing innovative solutions to academic challenges, and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and engagement.

Collaboration and Teamwork: The recipient should collaborate effectively with colleagues across departments and disciplines to promote a collaborative and inclusive academic environment. This may involve participating in cross-functional teams, sharing resources and expertise, and fostering partnerships to achieve shared academic goals.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement: The candidate should demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement and professional development in their role within academia. This may include pursuing additional training or certifications, staying updated on current trends and best practices in education and research, and actively seeking feedback to enhance their performance.