



## AASP Award Nomination Application Information

AASP's annual awards recognize the outstanding contributions of student and professional members whose work advances the knowledge base and enhances the delivery of services to consumers.

**Recipients of each award will be officially recognized during the AASP 2026 Annual Conference to be held in Minneapolis, MN on October 21-24, 2026.**

If you have any questions about how to submit your application after reading the directions below, please contact AASP at 317-205-9225. All nomination materials and letters of recommendation **must be sent to AASP headquarters and received by April 15\*** of the award year.

### Completing the Award Application: Instructions

Applicants must submit all required and supporting application materials in the online application portal by April 15.

Questions about applying for AASP Awards may be directed to [info@appliedsportpsych.org](mailto:info@appliedsportpsych.org).

**Applications that do not follow guidelines per instructions will not be reviewed.** As of the 2026 awards cycle, the application process is moving to an online submission portal.

*\*If you are submitting an application for the Performance Excellence award, please note that the submission deadline is November 1 for each year prior to the award being given.*

**\*\*If you are filling out for the Doctoral Dissertation award, a blind copy of the abstract will be a required file upload.**

**\*\*For the Master's Thesis Award, a blind full copy of the thesis and a non-blind abstract will be required file uploads.**

# AASP Award Nomination Application

## Description of Awards

### Dorothy V. Harris Memorial Award

The Dorothy V. Harris Memorial Award acknowledges the distinguished contributions of Dot Harris (1931-1991) to sport psychology by recognizing the efforts of an AASP professional in the early stage of their career. The recipient receives \$500 cash, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque awarded during a presentation summarizing the recipient's work.

Dr. Harris was regarded as an advocate and pioneer in the field of sport psychology and for women in sport. A longtime member of AASP and a Fellow, she was the first person to have many important roles in our field: she was the first American and woman to become a member of the International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP), the first resident sport psychologist at the United States Olympics Committee's (USOC) training center, the first recipient of the Women's Sport Foundation's award for contribution to women in sport, the first woman to be awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in Sport Psychology and in 1972, she headed the first research conference on women in sports. She was also a Fellow of the American Academy of Physical Education, Applied Sport Psychology Society, the International Society of Sport Psychology, and the first woman president of the North American Society of Sport Psychology and Physical Activity.

Dr. Harris earned her Bachelor's degree from James Madison University, a Master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a Doctoral degree from the University of Iowa. Dr. Harris went to The Pennsylvania State University in 1970, becoming full professor in 1973. Dr. Harris also started the nation's first graduate sport psychology specialization at Penn State University where she was a professor of Physical Education.

### Award Criteria

The recipient of the award must meet the following criteria:

- Received a doctoral degree no more than seven calendar years prior to nomination (not including any breaks in careers less than nine months\*);
- Made a significant contribution to AASP through conference presentations, publications in AASP journals, and/or involvement in committees; and
- Demonstrated a record of scholarship or practice that clearly establishes the individual as a leading scholar/practitioner within AASP (e.g., research which has progressed the field, groundbreaking practice, mentoring), compared to colleagues at similar stages in their academic careers.
- Evidence of national/international distinction should include reference to the innovation of the person's work; impact the work has had on the field of sport and exercise psychology, or the importance the work has in an applied setting. In all cases, the collected works of the individual should exhibit quality contributions that are both theoretical and practical, and that have been subjected to the critical review of established scholars/practitioners in the individual's area of expertise, and explicitly state how their work represents the spirit/contributions that Dot Harris made to the field.

AASP members who believe they are qualified can nominate themselves and are encouraged to do so. In addition, AASP members are encouraged to nominate qualified individuals for this Award.

### **Submission Guidelines**

*(to be attached in one single PDF sent to [info@appliedsportpsych.org](mailto:info@appliedsportpsych.org))*

- Submit a letter of nomination with evidence for this distinction, which might include the innovation of the person's work, the impact the work has on the field of sport psychology, or the importance the work has in an applied setting;
- Include a current curriculum vitae;
- Provide a 1-2 page summary of the nominee's work emphasizing the applied importance and connections to the work or values of Dr. Harris;
- Include reprints of five peer-reviewed publications that demonstrate how the applicant's contributions have been both theoretical and practical;
- Include two (2) letters of recommendation for the nominee;
- No mention of or attempted connection to the work or legacy of Dr. Dot Harris will result in the application being rejected.

## **AASP Award Nomination Application**

Description of Awards

### **Doctoral Dissertation Award**

The Dissertation Award recognizes the completion of an outstanding dissertation by an AASP doctoral student member (dissertation must have been completed between January 1 - December 31, 2025). The recipient receives a \$500 check, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque presented during the conference.

AASP invites student members to submit applications for the outstanding doctoral dissertation award. Applicants for the AASP Dissertation Award must meet the following guidelines:

- Completed a dissertation on a topic related to sport, exercise, and/or health psychology between January 1 - December 31
- Applicants must be a current member of AASP and have been a member in AASP at least one additional year preceding the application

### **Submission Guidelines**

1. Submit one copy of the entire dissertation.
2. Provide one original and one blind (no reference to author or affiliation) copy of a long abstract (up to three single-spaced pages). The abstract should include title, study purpose, method, results, and discussion.
3. Include a letter of support (two pages maximum) from the chair of the dissertation committee and a copy of the signed cover sheet (used by universities and signed by dissertation committee members indicating acceptance and completion of the dissertation work) with the application.

# AASP Award Nomination Application

## Description of Awards

### Distinguished International Scientist-Practitioner Award

The objectives of the Distinguished International Scientist-Practitioner Award are to (a) recognize and honor the achievements of outstanding individuals from the international community whose scientific and/or applied work has significantly impacted the field of sport and performance psychology, and (b) foster the internationality of AASP and sport and performance psychology. Like AASP Fellows, the recipient of this award would be carefully selected to represent a small, but significant, sample of outstanding individuals in the field of sport and performance psychology.

### Award Criteria

The recipient of the award must meet the following criteria:

- The recipient must reside in and be a native from a country outside of the US and Canada.
- Significantly impacts the field of sport and performance psychology. The recipient must have made significant contributions to the scientific body of knowledge in sport and performance psychology as evidenced by a distinguished record of publications and/or by exceptional quality and innovation in delivering services to the public. However, this does not mean that their job or primary interest is in sport and performance psychology, but rather that their work impacts the field of sport and performance psychology. For example, an eminent psychology theoretician or renowned clinical practitioner could become an AASP DISP.
- Has been recognized for their international impact on knowledge development and/or practical application in the field of sport and performance psychology as evidenced by international publications, worldwide presentations, conference proceedings, and/or coaching education and programs developed internationally, promotion of sport and exercise psychology education and application in several areas (e.g., sports, education, arts, business) within diverse international institutions, community, and the media (i.e., their work is known beyond their own country).
- Received approval from the AASP Executive Board following selection by the International Relations Committee.
- Although the nominated candidate does not need to be an AASP member, they need to be nominated by a current member in good standing.

DISP is an award, not a type of AASP membership. Individuals who attain AASP DISP status are not granted voting privileges, but rather are recognized and honored as a DISP.

### Submission Guidelines

An AASP member must nominate candidates for this award.

Please include the following materials in your application:

- A letter of nomination for the candidate from an AASP member describing, in detail, the achievements of the candidate in relation to the award criteria (three [3] pages maximum). The AASP member who nominates the candidate cannot also write one of the support letters.

- Two (2) letters of support for the candidate specifically describing the quality of the candidate's work and the impact that his/her work has had on the field of sport and exercise psychology. At least one of these letters has to be written by a professional in the sport and exercise psychology field.
- The candidate's Curriculum Vitae, which must be written in English and limited to a maximum of 6 pages.

### **DISP Selection and Recognition Procedures**

- The vitae and nomination letter for DISP status should be electronically submitted by April 15 each year so that the International Relations Committee can evaluate and select the nominees.
- DISP would be recognized at the AASP conference every year and the conference fee will be waived to the DISP. A plaque will be given to the award winner at the conference.
- The DISP receives a check of \$500.

# **AASP Award Nomination Application**

## Description of Awards

### **Distinguished Scientist-Practitioner Award**

The Distinguished Scientist-Practitioner Award recognizes an AASP member who demonstrates exceptional quality, innovation, and impact in delivering sport and performance psychology services to the public. The recipient receives a \$500 cash award, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque presented at the conference.

#### **Award Criteria**

Nominees must meet the following four criteria:

1. Sustained involvement in and meaningful contributions to both the science (e.g., published papers and/or professional practice articles that are theoretically relevant, describing novel ways of applying methods used to existing literature) and the practice of systematic sport and/or exercise psychology service delivery;
2. Demonstrated quality, innovation, and impact of services that represent an exceptional practitioner-scholar model of professional practice;
3. Significant impact on service recipients that enhances public interest in and appreciation for the field of sport and performance psychology;
4. Membership in AASP for 3 consecutive years at the time of the nomination.

#### **Submission Guidelines**

An AASP member must nominate the candidate for this award and serve as the candidate's sponsor. The nomination materials include:

- A letter of nomination describing in specific detail the achievements of the candidate in relation to the three award criteria (3 pages maximum)
- Two (2) letters of support for the candidate specifically describing the quality and impact of the candidate's work. These letters should be written by participants in the group/agency in which the candidate's work has been focused (they should not be professional sport psychology colleagues)
- The candidate's curriculum vitae

# AASP Award Nomination Application

## Description of Awards

### Outstanding Student Practice Award

The Outstanding Student Practice Award recognizes outstanding service delivery in sport and performance psychology by an AASP student member who demonstrates exceptional quality and innovation in delivering sport and performance psychology services to the public. The recipient receives a check for \$500, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque presented at the conference.

#### Award Criteria

Applicants for the Outstanding Student Practice Award must meet the following guidelines:

1. Must be a graduate student (Masters or PhD) at the time of the deadline for submissions.  
Applicant does not have to hold graduate student status at the time the award is presented.
2. Must be an AASP student member at the time of the deadline for submissions. Must either be an AASP student member or AASP professional member at the time the award is presented.
3. Must have at least 100 direct contact hours with clients with written verification from a supervisor (give general overview of the types of clients). Direct contact is defined by the hours in which you were face-to-face with an individual athlete, coach, team, exerciser, or client.

#### Submission Guidelines

The application package should include:

1. Two letters of support:
  - a. One from an AASP professional member who is involved in, or knowledgeable about, your sport/exercise/health/performance consulting experiences
  - b. One from the student's supervisor who is involved in, or knowledgeable about, your sport/exercise/health/performance consulting experiences
2. A 3-4 page description of a specific practitioner experience. Outline your consulting philosophy, nature of the problem, interventions, and outcomes (make sure there are no references to the identity of your client).
3. Curriculum vitae
4. Completed fillable PDF award application (**note:** all submission materials must be collated into ONE PDF file)

# **AASP Award Nomination Application**

## Description of Awards

### **Master's Thesis Award**

The Thesis Award recognizes the completion of an outstanding thesis by an AASP student member (thesis must have been completed between January 1 - December 31, 2025). The recipient receives a \$500 check, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque awarded during the conference.

### **Award Criteria**

Applicants must meet the following guidelines:

- Complete the requirements for a thesis between January 1 and December 31 of the year prior to the award, on a topic involving sport, exercise, and/or health psychology.
- Hold membership in AASP for the application year for the award and year preceding application.

### **Submission Guidelines**

1. Provide one blinded full thesis (no reference to author or affiliation in any part of the thesis).
2. Include a cover letter that includes contact information (i.e., current and permanent addresses including email) for the applicant, one letter of support (two pages maximum) from the chairperson/co-chair of the thesis committee, and a copy of the signed cover sheet (used by universities and signed by thesis committee members indicating acceptance and completion of thesis work) with the application.
3. Deadline for receipt of all materials is April 15 of the award year.
4. Electronically submit all questions and applications to [info@appliedsportpsych.org](mailto:info@appliedsportpsych.org).

Any committee member who has served in any capacity on a nominated thesis (e.g., thesis committee member) will recuse themselves from evaluating that thesis for fear of conflict of interest.



# **AASP Award Nomination Application**

## Description of Awards

### **Ken Ravizza Performance Excellence Award**

AASP's Performance Excellence Award recognizes individuals who embody exemplary psychological principles associated with performance excellence as demonstrated through consistent achievement, merit or leadership over the course of their career.

#### **Award Criteria**

1. Demonstrated a record of performance that clearly distinguishes the individual as exceptional when compared to a group of contemporaries, or
2. Exhibited an exceptional ability to perform at potential when it matters most or under inordinately adverse circumstances, or
3. Demonstrated a record of being able to consistently influence individuals to maximize their potential through the use of psychological principles associated with performance excellence.
4. The applicant has characterized the values and ethical practices that AASP promotes.

#### **Nomination Guidelines**

An AASP member may nominate a candidate for this award by November 1 of the year prior to the Award being given (i.e. November 1, 2025 for the 2026 award). The nomination should include a description of the nominee's accomplishments and a rationale for why AASP should confer the award.

#### **Award Recognition**

1. A plaque/award - given to the awardee.
2. A dedicated session will be scheduled where the awardee will present insights into the psychological process that led to nomination for the award.
3. The award is contingent upon an address given to the membership at the conference.
4. Travel costs to the annual conference, conference registration, and a hotel stay of up to 4 nights.

# AASP Award Nomination Application

## Description of Awards

### Inclusion, Diversity, and Excellence in Advocacy and Social Justice (IDEAS) Student Award

The purpose of the IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, and Excellence in Advocacy and Social Justice) Award is to recognize and honor the achievements of students involved in research, service, or applied experiences that focus on diversity, inclusion, social justice, or advocacy in sport and performance psychology. The recipient receives a check for \$500, a waived AASP Annual Conference registration fee in the year of the award, and a plaque presented at the conference.

#### Award Criteria

Applicants for the award must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a current AASP student member at the time of submission.
2. Have made important contributions to the field of sport and performance psychology in the area of diversity, inclusion, social justice, or advocacy, including but not limited to research, service, or applied work with clients, organizations, or community groups. Applicants need only fulfill one area (i.e., research, service, or applied work) to be eligible.

Important contributions may look like:

- Implementation of advocacy or social justice initiatives within an organization,
- Use of culturally-informed and responsive practices within diverse populations that created sustained and meaningful change with person(s) and community served,
- Publications,
- Development of manuals/workbooks,
- Presentation(s) at annual conference,
- Guest lectures,
- Community service work, and/or
- Presentation(s) at a sport-related, relevant conference related to diversity and inclusion (e.g., Diversity in Sport Conference, Social Justice through Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium) will be considered, however, the presentation needs to coincide with the [AASP Position Statement on Human Diversity](#).

#### Submission Requirements

- A three-page essay which addresses:
  - How the student incorporates issues of diversity, inclusion, social justice or advocacy into their research, service and/or applied work, **and**

- The importance of addressing these issues in the field of sport and performance psychology.
- A letter of recommendation from an AASP professional member familiar with the student's work.
- An updated curriculum vitae.
- Sample of one diversity, inclusion, social justice, or advocacy-related product (e.g., publication, podcast, workbook).
  - NOTE: This sample is for AASP Diversity Committee review only. This information will not be duplicated or shared with others.

## **Nominations**

- AASP student members may nominate themselves and are encouraged to do so. In addition, AASP professional members are encouraged to nominate qualified individuals for this award.
- Nominations for the award should be submitted before the April 15 deadline through the online submission portal.

## **Award Recognition**

- The Annual Conference registration fee will be waived for the year of the award.
- A plaque will be given to the award winner(s) at the conference.
  - Plaque to read: "In recognition of achievement for important contributions to the field of sport and performance psychology in the areas of diversity, inclusion, social justice, and advocacy."