



AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Information

AASP Foundation'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.

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.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Distinguished AASP Service Award

The AASP Distinguished AASP Service Award recognizes an AASP member who has made sustained and distinguished service contributions to the Association and its membership. This individual may serve as a role model for our early career professionals and student members on the importance of sustained service to AASP in a variety of positions.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Professional Membership in AASP for at least 15 years and for three consecutive years at the time of nomination and at least 15 years post-graduation from highest degree.
2. Sustained and meaningful service contributions to AASP. This award is intended to recognize longevity in service to the Association and its membership. Consideration will be given to the positions held, the duration of service, and the accomplishments of the individual while an incumbent in each position. This award should be considered recognition of a lifetime of service contribution. In the absence of a nominee who is deemed deserving of the award by the Foundation Committee, the award may be withheld.
3. Service contributions can be made in a variety of ways which include but are not limited to serving as (a) an elected officer of AASP (Executive Board), (b) the chair of a standing or ad hoc AASP committee, (c) a member of a standing or ad hoc AASP committee, (d) serving on the Certification Council, and (e) a formal representative of AASP to other organizations.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. A nomination letter by an AASP member is required. Self-nominations are welcome. The nominating member (colleague or self) will serve as the candidate's sponsor for the award and should submit the nomination letter and all supporting materials electronically per the AASP Foundation Award submission guidelines. The letter of nomination (3 page maximum) should address the nature and quality of the nominee's service contributions. A detailed history of the individual's service-oriented contributions to AASP should be provided and should specify:
 - a. The offices and positions held by the nominee. The duration of nominee's service in each such office and position.
 - b. The significant achievements of the nominee while an incumbent in each office and position.
 - c. The nomination package should also include: a current Curriculum Vitae and two letters of support.

The 5-person Review Committee will include: two members of the Foundation Committee, a representative from the AASP Past Presidents Council, a previous recipient of this award (if available), and/or other current AASP members with a history of serving on AASP Committees.

A plaque, cash award of \$500, and waiver of the conference registration fee for that year's conference (paid by AASPF Endowment) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Distinguished Public Communication, Awareness and Outreach Award

This award recognizes an AASP member's efforts to promote, raise awareness of the field/ profession, or engage in outreach efforts to non-sport psychology related professional organizations. These efforts could include but are not limited to a book, video, webinar, etc. published in the past year, which made a significant contribution to education and/or practice in an area within the field; or theory, research and/or practice with another professional organization (e.g. NATA, ACSM, ACA, NCAA, etc.)

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Student or Professional member of AASP.
2. Demonstrate engagement in a public communication, awareness or outreach efforts during the previous calendar year. This effort could include but is not limited to:
 - a. Actively involved in sustained sharing of information with another professional organization, such as the National Athletic Trainers' Association, the American College of Sports Medicine, the American Counseling Association, etc.
 - b. First author of the contribution (book/video/webinar/other source). Resource made a significant contribution to education and/or practice within the discipline.
 - c. Other public outreach, awareness or outreach efforts that serve to elevate or raise awareness of the sport psychology field/profession.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. A nomination letter. This may be in the form of a self-statement if self-nominating.
2. Up to four letters of support from a variety of references, including at least one from a professional in the field of sport and exercise psychology noting the impact of the member's work.
 - a. Nomination letter and support letters should include detailed information about the members efforts to promote, and engage in outreach efforts to raise awareness of the field, as well as the contribution and significance of these efforts on the field/profession (e.g., number of copies sold, social media engagement, responses to efforts by other organizations etc.)
 - b. Each letter for support may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.
3. Submission of a resume/curriculum vitae is required.

A three-person subcommittee from the AASP Foundation, including at least one AASP student member, will review the application(s).

A plaque, cash award of \$250 (paid by AASPF) and waiver of the conference registration fee for that year's conference (paid by AASPF) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Distinguished Contributions to Science Award

The AASP Distinguished Contributions to Science Award recognizes an AASP member who has made sustained and distinguished empirical and/or theoretical scientific contributions to the field of sport and performance psychology. This individual may serve as a role model for our early career professionals and student members pursuing research careers.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Professional Membership in AASP for at least 10 years and for three consecutive years at the time of nomination and at least 10 years post-graduation from highest degree.
2. Sustained and meaningful contributions to the theoretical scientific base and/or to professional practice knowledge base in the field of sport and/or performance psychology through empirical research, peer-reviewed publication, and presentation at national/international conferences. This award is intended to recognize longevity in scientific contributions and should be considered recognition of a lifetime of achievement.
3. Significant theoretical and/or empirical contributions that impact the science of SEP psychology, including impact on colleagues and students. The setting in which the nominee made the contributions may include sport, exercise, or performance psychology (e.g., first responders, dance, military, etc.).
4. Recognized as a contributing scientist by other prominent SEP scientists/researchers.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. A nomination letter by an AASP member is required. Self-nominations are welcome. The nominating member will serve as the candidate's sponsor for the award and should submit the nomination letter and all supporting materials electronically per the AASP Foundation Award submission guidelines. The letter of nomination (3 page maximum) should address the following:
 - a. The general nature of the nominee's scientific contributions.
 - b. The most important theoretical and/or empirical contributions.
 - c. The impact of the nominee's contributions on the science of SEP psychology, including the impact that the work has had on the work of students and colleagues.
 - d. The stature of the nominee as a scientist vis-à-vis other prominent scientists in the field of SEP psychology.
2. Current Curriculum Vitae, two letters of support, and up to three electronic copies of significant publications.

The five-member review committee will consist of Foundation Committee members who have a strong science background and may also include past award winners or additional outside members as needed.

A plaque, cash award of \$500, and waiver of the conference registration fee for that year's conference (paid by AASPF Endowment) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Award Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Distinguished Applied Practitioner Award

This award is designated for applied sport psychology practitioners who demonstrate excellence and longevity in the field. The purpose is to recognize those individuals who are established and thriving within the field of applied sport psychology. Although similar, this award is different to the Dorothy Harris Memorial Award: (a) a doctorate is not required; (b) it is for practitioners who have been in the field for a minimum of 15 years post-graduation; and, (c) a demonstration of traditional scholarship is not required, though examples of engaging in the scientist-practitioner framework is welcomed. Applicant practitioners may be creative about how they demonstrate “excellence” in the field.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Professional member of AASP. Minimum of 15 years post-graduation from last degree.
2. Be an active Certified Mental Performance Consultant® (CMPC).
3. Exhibited excellence and longevity in applied sport psychology practice. Longevity may include but not be limited to: having a strong history of applied practice, an established and consistent private practice, long-term involvement in applied practice within performance settings, etc.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. Detailed information about the person’s work within applied sport psychology practice. This may include a self-statement and up to two statements of support from others knowledgeable about member’s engagement and longevity in applied practice, etc.
2. Submissions may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.
3. Submission of a resume/curriculum vitae is required.

A plaque and cash award of \$250 (paid by AASPF) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Early Career Applied Practitioner Award

The award is designated for sport psychology practitioners who have recently entered into the applied field post-graduation. The purpose is to support those early in their career, a time that is often marked by financial instability as well as to recognize the difficulty of starting a new practice.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Professional member of AASP.
2. Be an Early Career Practitioner (ECP), within seven years of obtaining her/his doctoral degree (or master's degree with no intention of pursuing a doctoral degree).
3. Have exhibited excellence in applied sport psychology practice

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. Detailed information about the person's work within applied sport psychology.
2. Submissions may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.
3. Submission of a resume/curriculum vitae is required.

A plaque and cash award of \$250 (paid by AASPF) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Kate F. Hays Distinguished Mentor Award

The Kate F. Hays Distinguished Mentor Award recognizes the outstanding efforts by an AASP member as a mentor/supervisor who has had a significant impact on their mentee(s) in the field. The recipient receives a \$250 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. Professional member of AASP.
2. Be an active Certified Mental Performance Consultant® (CMPC).
3. Have significantly impacted the professional work and personal development of mentee(s) as illustrated in testimonial letters.
4. Nominees will generally be individuals who have been teaching/working/mentoring/supervising in the field for many years, but it is possible that early career professionals could meet the spirit of the award and will certainly be considered.

Submission Guidelines

An AASP member or group of AASP members who are students or professionals may nominate a mentor for this award. The nomination materials include:

- Detailed information about the mentor and the scope and significance of his/her mentoring of students or professionals within sport and exercise psychology (and potentially beyond).
- Submissions may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.
- A maximum of four (4) supplemental letters from mentees may be added in an Appendix.

A five-person subcommittee from the AASP Foundation, including at least one AASP student member, will review the application(s).

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Student/Early Career Professional Science-Practitioner Award

This award will be given to a student or early career professional AASP member (ECP is within 2 years of receiving doctoral degree), who has demonstrated excellence in both the science of applied sport psychology (as evidenced by presentations and/or publications) as well as the practice of applied sport psychology (as evidenced by work in a variety of applied exercise and/or sport settings) in areas related to sport, exercise and performance psychology and/or areas relevant to critical socio-cultural (e.g. diversity, equity, inclusion) or public health issues (e.g. concussions, physical inactivity, bullying, etc.). Students/ECPs may self-nominate or be nominated by colleagues and/or mentors.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Student or Early Career Professional (ECP) member of AASP.
2. Have demonstrated excellence in both the science and practice of applied sport psychology in areas within applied sport psychology relevant to SEP psychology, critical socio-cultural or public health issues.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP student member for this award.

The nomination materials should include:

1. Detailed information about the person's work within the science and practice of applied sport psychology.
2. Submissions may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.
3. Submission of a curriculum vitae is required.

A three-person subcommittee from the AASP Foundation, including at least one AASP student member, will review the application(s).

A plaque, cash award of \$250, and waiver of the conference registration fee for that year's conference (paid by AASPF) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.

AASP Foundation Awards Nomination Application

Description of Awards

Teaching Excellence Award

The Teaching Excellence Award was developed to acknowledge exceptional classroom educators in the field of sport, exercise, and performance psychology. This award is given to recognize a member of AASP who demonstrates teaching excellence and advances the field/profession of sport psychology through teaching.

Award Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Professional or student member of AASP.
2. Be a faculty member, adjunct, or graduate student with a workload consistent for their institution and position but whose primary role includes being actively involved in sustained teaching activities.
3. Demonstrate a clear and consistent commitment to student learning, course innovation, and/or collaboration with other educators.

Submission Guidelines

Any AASP member may nominate (or self-nominate) an AASP member for this award. The nomination materials should include:

- At least three letters of support; no more than five letters may be submitted. The letters of support should include:
 - At least one letter from a colleague (e.g., a teaching peer) who can speak to their teaching performance;
 - At least one letter from a Department Chair or other colleague within the institution (e.g., program director or Dean) who can offer additional commentary on the applicant's commitment to student success and course innovation, and confirm that the applicant's primary role includes being actively involved in sustained teaching activities; and,
 - The remaining letter(s) could include support letters from current/former students.

These letters should demonstrate and include detailed information about the person's sustained involvement in teaching activities, effectiveness of teaching, demonstrate their commitment to student success and course innovation, and highlight their willingness to go above and beyond for the students whom they serve.

Each letter for support may be no more than two (2) pages single-spaced.

- Submission of a resume/curriculum vitae is required.

A three-person subcommittee from the AASP Foundation, including at least one AASP student member, will review the application(s).

A plaque, cash award of \$250, and waiver of the conference registration fee for that year's conference (paid by AASPF) will be awarded at the Annual Conference.