

NASPA IV-West Awards Descriptions & Criteria

The James J. Rhatigan Outstanding Dean Award

The recipient of this award will be the Region IV-West nominee for the Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Dean* given at the national conference. (*Dean refers to any title that denotes the lead student affairs officer on campus). The nominated individual must have demonstrated:

1. Sustained professional service as a Senior Student Affairs Officer;
2. High-level competency in administrative skills;
3. Merited respect and support of students, faculty, and fellow administrators on his/her own campus;
4. Innovative response in meeting varied and emerging needs of students;
5. Effectiveness in the development of junior staff members;
6. Significant contributions to the field through publications or professional involvement;
7. Leadership in community and university affairs; and
8. Current membership in NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West Distinguished Service Award

The recipient of this award will be the Region IV-West nominee for the Fred Turner Award for Outstanding Service to NASPA given at the national conference. The individual nominated must have demonstrated:

1. Continuous NASPA membership for at least ten years;
2. Leadership performance in NASPA at the state, regional, or national level, the high quality of which is recognized by NASPA peers for enhancing our professional organization; and
3. Current membership in NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West Outstanding New Professional Award

The recipient of the Region IV-West award will be recognized at the national conference Awards Ceremony. The individual nominated must meet the following criteria:

1. Has been in the profession of student affairs for less than five (5) years;
2. Has made significant contributions to his or her campus, the regional organization and the profession; and
3. Current membership in NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West Community College Professional Award

This award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated leadership and a commitment to NASPA and/or the profession. Student affairs professionals in all positions are eligible for this award. The recipient of this award will be submitted as the Region IV-West nominee for the National Community College Professional Award.

The individual nominated must meet the following criteria:

1. Demonstrated active involvement with the profession, NASPA, and Community College research, policies, or practice; at the regional level;
2. Contributed to creating a campus environment that promotes student learning and personal development;
3. Outstanding individual contribution in innovative and responsive services and programs that address varied and emerging needs of students;
4. A minimum of five years' experience in student affairs; and
5. Be a current member of NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West Outstanding Faculty Member Award

The recipient of the award will be the Region IV-West nominee for the Robert Shaffer Award for Academic Excellence as a Graduate Faculty member. Criteria include:

1. Contribution to the profession through the mentorship of graduate students;
2. Contribution to the profession through teaching graduate and professional school students who generally got into higher education administration and student affairs;
3. Contribution to the profession through scholarly achievement in appropriate journals and publications; and
4. Current membership in NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award

The recipient of the award will be the Region IV-West nominee for the national Mid-Level Student Affairs Professional Award. The individual nominated must meet the following criteria.

1. Must have at least five years of experience as a full-time practitioner in the field of Student Affairs;
2. Must have made significant contributions to his or her campus, the regional organization, and the profession;

3. Must be a current member of NASPA Region IV-West.

The NASPA IV-West President's Award

This award is a special recognition given to a college or university president who has, over a sustained period of time, advanced the quality of student life on campus by supporting student affairs staff and programs. This individual must show evidence of direct involvement in enhancing the quality of student life on campus, active attempts to involve students and student life in governing the institution, and demonstrable contributions to the profession, which have an impact beyond an individual campus. The recipient of the award will be the Region IV-West nominee for the national President's Award.

The NASPA IV-West NUFP Champion Award

A newly established award... language to come.

The NASPA IV-West Support Staff Recognition Award

This award is presented to an individual who has contributed significantly to higher education and student affairs professionals.

Rising Star Awards

The Rising Star Awards were created by NASPA IV-West to recognize achievement, involvement, and potential in our emerging and future Student Affairs professionals. Each category can have a winner from each state in the region.

The NASPA IV-West New Professional Rising Star Awards

This award is presented to a new professional from each state in NASPA IV-West (10 awards total) who meets the following criteria:

1. In the profession less than three years;
2. Employed in a full-time position with a Division of Student Affairs;
3. Significant contribution to his or her campus, and
4. Preference given to masters-prepared individuals

(NOTE: This differs from the regional Outstanding New Professional Award in that it does not require NASPA membership or NASPA service, and targets nominees who have been in the profession only three years or less)

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Kansas
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Wyoming

The NASPA IV-West Graduate Student Rising Star Awards

This award is presented to a graduate student from each state in NASPA IV-West (10 awards total) who meets the following criteria:

1. Currently pursuing masters or doctoral work in a Student Affairs-related degree program, with intention of pursuing a career within Student Affairs (preference should be given to those enrolled on a full-time basis);
2. Involvement in campus activities and organizations;
3. Campus leadership; and
4. Graduate Assistantship, paraprofessional or internship employment within a Student Affairs Division.

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Kansas
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Wyoming

The NASPA IV-West Undergraduate Rising Star Awards

This award is presented to an undergraduate student from each state in NASPA IV-West (10 awards total) who meets the following criteria:

1. Involvement in campus activities and organizations;
2. Current enrollment in an undergraduate program with junior or senior status;
3. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5;
4. Campus leadership;
5. Paraprofessional employment with a Division of Student Affairs; and
6. Intentions of pursuing a Student Affairs-related advanced degree.

- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Kansas
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Wyoming

The NASPA IV-West Innovative Program Award This award is presented to the professional(s) and respective institution who have developed and implemented a program which results in improved educational activities, services, or management for an individual campus community or group of campus communities.

Other criteria include:

- (a) involves collaboration with the other university departments;
- (b) can be adopted by other institutions;
- (c) demonstrates financial creativity or cost effectiveness; \
- (d) contains an evaluation component - evidence of effectiveness;
- (e) encourages diverse and/or multiple subgroups to participate; and
- (f) addresses a demonstrated need on campus.

To nominate a program for the Regional Innovative Program Award, complete the "Award Nominee" section by indicating the name of the Innovative Program and the "Person Making the Nomination" section. Include the description or information about the program under the Supporting Letter 1. Attach a pdf file or a link to the program as Support Letter 2. No additional supporting letters are needed unless the nominee would like to submit additional letters of support.

Publication Awards

The awards are presented to the individuals or institutions that have developed outstanding materials which contribute significantly to the field of Student Affairs. Awards may be made in three categories:

- Campus-Based Publication Award
- Campus-Based Literature/Research Award publications (coincides with the Outstanding Contribution to Literature and/or Research at the national level); and
- Campus-Based Video/Computer Software Award

To nominate a program for a Regional Publication Award, complete the "Award Nominee" section by indicating the name of the publication and the "Person Making the Nomination" section. Include the description or information about the publication under the Supporting Letter 1. Attach a pdf file or a link to the program as Support Letter 2. Resumes of the authors of the literature/research publication nomination must also be included as an attachment. No additional supporting letters are needed unless the nominee would like to submit additional letters of support.

Questions regarding the awards process can be directed to:
Dr. Cassie Gerhardt, Assistant Dean of Students, University of North Dakota
Chair, Region IV-West Awards
cassie.gerhardt@und.edu
701.777.3667