



Terms of Reference | President's Award for Excellence in Student Leadership

Award Description

[The President's Award for Excellence in Student Leadership](#) is presented to graduating students (undergraduate or graduate) who, during their years at the University of Calgary, have combined excellent academic achievement with outstanding co-curricular contributions to the university and the broader community. The intent is to recognize those students who have made significant contributions toward improving and developing the intellectual, social, cultural and/or athletic fabric of the University of Calgary community.

Number of Awards Annually: Up to five

Eligibility:

- Offered annually to graduating students in any faculty
- The award is based on excellent academic achievement and outstanding co-curricular contributions to the university. It is aligned with the values of the university as outlined in [Ahead of Tomorrow](#), and the [Academic Innovation Plan](#) – Domain #4 - Inclusive, Caring and Sustainable Campus Culture.
- Criteria for assessment:
 - Demonstrated contribution to the university on an institutional level through leadership on university or faculty-based committees, groups or organizations
 - Contributions to the development and enhancement of student-focused co-curricular activities at the university
 - Demonstrated commitment and impact to the local, provincial, national and/or international community such as volunteer work or research
 - Contributions to building community and pride at the university, demonstrated through passion for supporting students and the student experience formally or informally. (i.e. individual mentorship, organizing events, etc.) We encourage applicants to emphasize impacts that are aligned with Domain #4 Inclusive, Caring and Sustainable Campus Culture and our institutional commitments to EDIA, Mental Health & Well-being through the Office of Institutional Commitments as well as *ii' taa'poh'to'p* through the Office of Indigenous Engagement.
 - Demonstrated commitment to academic excellence through good academic standing that may be evidenced through GPA, course grades, publications, conference presentations, research engagement, academic prizes or awards, and/or other scholarly achievements.
- Students must be in their graduating year of a graduate or undergraduate program. Students in the Leaders in Medicine program are only eligible in their graduating year, (i.e. the year they are attending convocation)
- Nomination is based on the degree the student is currently receiving
- Students need to be in good conduct standing.
- Students are eligible to receive the award one time only.

- Should a student become ineligible for the award at any point in the process (e.g., if the student intends to graduate but does not do so in the planned year), their nomination will be withdrawn.

Nomination Process:

Nominators

Eligible students are nominated by faculty, staff or students. There should only be one nominator. The nominator must obtain the consent of the student whose nomination they are putting forward and complete the online nomination form. This form includes submitting a primary letter of support and coordinating the submission of two additional supporting letters. There should be three letters submitted. All details can be found at [Information for nominators.](#)

Nominated Students

The nomination process requires the nominated student to submit an online nominee form where they can share their contributions, consent to the review of their academic student record and confirm they are in good student conduct standing with the university. All details can be found at [Information for student nominees.](#)

Nominations open January 1 and close March 1, annually.

Selection:

Five members of the University of Calgary community comprise a selection committee and choose the award recipient(s). The selection committee is comprised of:

- 1) the Vice-Provost (Student Experience)
- 2) a faculty member (preference is for an associate dean who works with students)
- 3) a distinguished alum
- 4) the Students' Union President, or their delegate
- 5) the President of the Graduate Students' Association, or their delegate

All members of the committee are required to complete Bias training and sign an Oath of Confidentiality to ensure all nomination materials are reviewed objectively and kept confidential.

Presentation:

The Awards are presented at the June and November convocation ceremonies (when applicable) each academic year.

Agreed to by:

Verity Turpin
Vice-Provost (Student Experience)

Date: December 19, 2024