

2022 Ohio State Leadership Awards Descriptions

- All applications, nominations, and supporting documents must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Monday, January 31, 2022.
- All letters of recommendation must be submitted by 11:59 pm on Friday, February 4, 2022.
- Note: letters of recommendation can only be submitted **after** the corresponding application has been submitted.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Outstanding First-Year Student Award

This award is designed to recognize the early accomplishments of first-year students at The Ohio State University. Any undergraduate, first-year student (no more than one completed semester at the time of application) is eligible for this award. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. The period of eligibility includes involvement/experiences from Summer 2021 to present. The committee will recognize those students who have demonstrated leadership at the college level and who demonstrate potential for great leadership at Ohio State. A successful applicant will articulate how their definition of “leadership” has evolved since beginning college, demonstrate involvements that align with personal values, describe responsibilities and accomplishments related to involvement, and illustrate awareness of personal strengths and weaknesses.

Students may apply on their own behalf, or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student.

Application Requirements: Online application or nomination, resume, recommendation letter. If you are nominating a student for this award, the letter of recommendation must come from a different faculty/staff member.

Outstanding Senior Award

The Outstanding Senior award is among the highest honors conferred to undergraduate student leaders. This award recognizes less than 1% of graduating seniors who excel in leadership, service, and scholarship throughout their tenure at Ohio State. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. Any undergraduate student who graduates in Spring, Summer, or Autumn of 2022 is eligible for this award. A successful applicant will articulate what involvement/service/research/employment/study has made the most significant impact on their life, how they have made a contribution to a community during their time at Ohio State, what challenges they faced during their time as a college student, and how involvement has influenced their plans after graduation.

Students must apply on their own behalf for this award.

Application Requirements: Online application, resume, recommendation letter

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Outstanding Graduate/Professional Student Award

Among the highest honors conferred to graduate and professional students, this award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions in leadership and service outside their academic program. Students should also have demonstrated the ability to balance scholarship with their leadership and involvement. Eligibility includes graduate and professional students who are currently enrolled in an academic graduate or professional program. Applicants must be in good academic standing with a 3.00 GPA or equivalent. A successful applicant will articulate what they have learned about “leadership” that positions you to be a leader within your community or professional field – and how you have made a significant contribution to a community during your time as a graduate/professional student.

Students may apply on their own behalf, or be nominated by a faculty/staff/student.

Application Requirements: Online application, resume, recommendation letter. If you are nominating a student for this award, the letter of recommendation must come from a different faculty/staff member.

Kaplan Humanitarian Award

The Kaplan Humanitarian Award was established April 8, 1960, by Jack S. Resler in honor of Rabbi Kaplan to recognize a student who has been outstanding in campus interfaith or intercultural activities. It is presented to any undergraduate student who reflects an understanding and appreciation of human dignity in their efforts to foster involvement, programming, or education within the University community. The student(s) recognized should have demonstrated significant contribution towards intercultural, international and/or interfaith understanding during his/her time at Ohio State. Applicants must be in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA. This award comes with a scholarship award.

Students must apply on their own behalf.

Application Requirements: Online application, resume, recommendation letter

Dr. Ellamae Simmons Award

Born in 1918 in Mount Vernon, Ohio, Dr. Ellamae Simmons dreamed of becoming a physician. Throughout her life she faced racism and sexism. She was initially denied from Ohio State’s nursing program because of her race, but nevertheless joined the Red Cross and served in the U.S. Army Nursing Corps for more than three years during World War II. Following the war she applied again to Ohio State and was accepted to the Biological Sciences program. Dr. Ellamae Simmons went on to earn her Masters in Social Work from Ohio State, and her medical degree from Howard University. This award recognizes students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service – particularly with regard to issues at the intersection of race and gender. This award comes with a scholarship award

Students must apply on their own behalf.

Application Requirements: Online application, resume, recommendation letter

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Stanley D. Gottsegen Leadership Award

The Stanley D. Gottsegen Leadership Award recognizes one student leader annually who has demonstrated outstanding involvement in co-curricular activities with a scholarship award. Students must be current undergraduate juniors or seniors involved in one of the following organizations: Undergraduate Student Government, Ohio Union Activities Board, Greek Governing Councils, Makio, or Ohio Staters, Inc. Students must apply on their own behalf.

Students must apply on their own behalf.

Application Requirements: Online application, resume, in-person interview (letter of recommendation not required. Interviews will be scheduled with finalists after an initial review of applications)

STUDENT ORGANIZATION AWARDS -----

Outstanding Student Organization Awards

Ohio State believes in the value of student organizations and their impact on the students involved. Student organizations provide a niche for students at a large university and a means to develop leadership while serving a broader cause. These awards recognize student organizations that make extraordinary contributions to campus and their members across the different outcomes identified in the [Student Organization Success Framework](#). The Framework identifies ways in which organizations can achieve success in Member Development, Organization Operations, and Community Engagement. An outstanding organization will find success across all three of these domains. They have demonstrated the values of collaboration and conflict resolution. We recognize that the achievements of established student organizations and new student organizations differ, yet both contribute to overall campus involvement. Therefore, this award is granted in two categories. Organizations may only apply for one category:

- **Outstanding Overall Student Organization:** any organization registered with the Ohio Union prior to January 1, 2021.
- **Outstanding New Student Organization:** any organization that registered with the Ohio Union for the first time, or re-registered a previously existing group after two or more years of inactivity, on or after January 1, 2021.

Application Requirements: Online application

Student Organization Excellence Awards

In many respects, the success of student organization programming contributes to "Creating the Extraordinary Student Experience at Ohio State." The excellence awards are designed to recognize student organizations whose work over the past year demonstrates notable accomplishments success in Member Development, Organization Operations, and Community Engagement, the three domains within the [Student Organization Success Framework](#). The application should demonstrate examples of work in the category on or after January 1, 2021.

- **Member Development:** Demonstrated excellence in Member Development can take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: leadership capacity and confidence, social perspective taking, and wellness. The application should explain how the selected activity has created opportunities for their members to learn about their own strengths and abilities, gain confidence and build a sense of community.

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- **Organization Operations:** Demonstrated excellence in Organization Operations can take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: purpose and goals, membership recruitment and retention, budgeting and financial management, fundraising and philanthropy, programming, leadership transitions, self-governance, operational efficiency, collaboration, responsiveness and innovation, diversity and inclusion, risk reduction, and advisor partnerships. The application should explain how the selected activity demonstrates the organization's structures and processes to manage their overall operational effectiveness.
- **Community Engagement:** Demonstrated excellence in Community Engagement can take a variety of forms, including but not limited to: connection to student organizations, affinity with the university, and commitment to social change. The application should explain how the selected activity fosters engagement and contribute to communities larger than themselves.

Application Requirements: Online application

Outstanding Student Organization Program

Ohio State student organizations host thousands of events throughout the academic year, contributing not only to the extraordinary student experience of their own members, but that campus community. Outstanding programs should promote the mission of the organization, meaningfully involve members in the planning and execution of the event, and make a lasting impact on membership and/or the campus community. Successful programs will align with the Programming outcome in the [Student Organization Success Framework](#). This award recognizes outstanding student programs held on campus since January 1, 2021.

Application Requirements: Online application

NOMINATION-BASED AWARDS -----

Nomination Requirements: Online nomination form completed by a University faculty member, staff member, or current student on behalf of another. Self-nominations are not accepted in this category.

Student Organization Individual Contribution Awards

This award recognizes those students, faculty, and staff who have made extraordinary contributions to a student organization through their involvement, leadership, and dedication to the organization and its mission. Recognizing that organizational success requires individual contribution in a variety of formats and at all levels, this award is presented in four different categories:

- **New Member:** A student who joined the organization on or after January 1, 2021. This member has demonstrated commitment and leadership in their first year as a member.
- **General Member:** An outstanding general member is a student who does not hold a formal title/position of leadership within the organization, but whose actions/attitude/mentorship/ideas/etc. have been instrumental to the organization's success. This is a student who goes above and beyond their duties as a general member, and performs exemplary work that may not be otherwise recognized.
- **Positional Leader:** A student who holds a formal title/position of leadership within the organization, (example: an active member who has been elected or appointed to a leadership role such as vice president, treasurer, or committee chairperson.) This is a leader who has empowered and developed their members and has demonstrated leadership in their role.

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- **Advisor:** University faculty and staff members who advise a registered student organization. Additional consideration will be given to nominees for whom advising a student organization is not part of their job responsibilities. [Please note: Student Activities staff members and graduate administrative associates are not eligible for this award.] This advisor has gone above and beyond in their duties as an advisor and helped to facilitate growth and development in their members.

Spirit of Ohio State Award

The Spirit of Ohio State Award recognizes students and/or student organizations that represent the values, traditions, and spirit of Ohio State through their engagement in and commitment to the campus community. Ideal nominees are students and organizations which have added to the honor and pride of the University in a meaningful way.

Nomination Requirements: Online nomination form completed by a University faculty member, staff member, or student on behalf of another. Self-nominations are not accepted.

DEPARTMENT SPONSORED AWARDS -----

These awards are sponsored by various university departments, and each has a specific focus related to that department's mission.

- **Student Life Student Employee Award**
On-campus student employment is one of many ways for students to get involved and build leadership skills. This award recognizes the contributions of student employees in Student Life offices. Any undergraduate, graduate, or professional student employed within Student Life is eligible to receive this award. Assistantship appointments are not eligible for this award.
Nomination Requirements: Online nomination form completed by a Student Life professional or student staff member on behalf of another. Self-nominations are not accepted.
- **Student Life Supervisor Award**
This award recognizes Student Life supervisors who create an extraordinary student employee experience for their students. They go above and beyond in their duties as a supervisor and help create personal and professional development opportunities for their employees.
Nomination Requirements: Online nomination form completed by a Student Life professional or student staff member on behalf of another. Self-nominations are not accepted.
- **Outstanding Diversity Program Award and Diversity Engagement Award:** Sponsored by the Student Life Multicultural Center, these two awards are presented to individuals and student organizations for their leadership in and commitment to diversity programming and initiatives.
- **Scarlet, Gray & Green Student Leadership Award:** Sponsored by Energy Management & Sustainability, this award is presented to an individual student who has shown leadership in furthering sustainability efforts on campus.



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- **Boehm Holistic Wellness Leadership Award**: Sponsored by the Student Life Wellness Center, this award is presented in both individual and organization categories. The award recognizes Buckeyes who have promoted holistic wellness through leadership.

All award applications and recommendation forms are available online at
go.osu.edu/leadershipawards