



## Predoctoral Dental Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry

**TO:** Deans, Schools of Dentistry  
**FROM:** Dr. Sena Narendran, Student Awards Chair  
**DATE:** August 1, 2023  
**RE:** AAPHD Predoctoral Student Merit Award Program

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) cordially invites your School/College to participate in the annual *Predoctoral Dental Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry*. We hope you will choose to nominate student(s) for this competition. The awards will be presented during AAPHD's Annual Business meeting which will be held during the **2024 National Oral Health Conference® in St. Louis, MO**.

Each School/College of Dentistry may submit a **maximum of two (2)** separate nominations for this award. The nominees(s) must have completed their project prior to graduation. Those nominees whose projects were completed during their fifth academic year will be judged with the graduate student submissions.

Each project should be an oral health program/research carried out in a community by the student(s).

For **project components and submission requirements**, please [click here](#). Abstracts to be considered for the AAPHD Student Merit Award program *should not* be submitted a second time for the General Poster Session.

If there are any questions concerning this announcement, please contact Dr. Sena Narendran by electronic mail: [snx100@case.edu](mailto:snx100@case.edu)

### Dates to note:

- **Open now** – Site opens for submission Student Merit Awards
- **January 10, 2024** – Deadline for submission of nominees and supportive material. Submission site closes at 11:45 pm EASTERN.
- **February, 2024** – Notifications emailed to submitters

**The National Oral Health Conference® will be held on April 15-17 in St. Louis, MO**

**AAPHD's Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 14, 2024**

## Project Components and Submission Requirements for the Predoctoral Dental Student Merit Award, 2024

### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- All material must be submitted electronically by visiting the [NOHC Abstract Submission Site](#). *No manual submissions will be accepted.* Nominations will not be considered after the submission deadline.
- Be sure to complete all the submission tasks – you may save your submission and return to the form as needed until the deadline. After the deadline date, no changes can be made.
- A submission is not considered complete if you do not complete all tasks. All tasks must have a green checkmark indicator before each task. The submitter will receive an immediate e-mail acknowledgement once the submission is complete. *Only completed submissions will be reviewed for consideration.*
- It is the responsibility of the person submitting the abstract to verify the correct spelling and email address for all authors' email addresses when the abstract is submitted. NOHC is not responsible if authors do not receive email communications as a result of an incorrect email address provided during the submission.
- NOHC is not responsible for incorrect information in program material due to incorrect information provided by submitter.
- **Reports must be submitted by 11:45 pm EST, Wednesday, January 10, 2024. No exceptions.** Notification of selection will be made in February 2024. Any questions related to the submission process may be directed to the NOHC office at [abstracts@nationaloralhealthconference.com](mailto:abstracts@nationaloralhealthconference.com).

### II. COMPONENTS FOR ONLINE SUBMISSIONS

Each project should be an oral health program/research carried out in a community by the student(s). The following online tasks must be addressed for the submission to be considered complete:

1. **Author(s).** One presenting author must be identified.
2. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure.** A conflict of interest disclosure must be completed by each author listed on the abstract.
3. **Abstract Requirements:**
  - a. **Title.** *Limit 100 characters/30 words.* Titles should be entered in title case format, i.e. the first letter of each word is capitalized unless it is an article or preposition. DO NOT USE all capital letters in the title.
  - b. **Body of Abstract.** *Word limit: 250 words, exclusive of the title and the source of funding.* The words: "Objective", "Methods", "Results", and "Conclusions" must be included in the body of the abstract and are included in the 250-word limit.
  - c. **Source of Funding.** All sources of funding and support must be included.
  - d. **Affiliations.** Please list the universities and agencies with which the authors are affiliated.
  - e. **Keywords.** Include three (3) to ten (10) keywords.
4. **Supporting Documents.** Each nominee is required to upload the following:
  - a. **Report.** *Limit 20 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, minimum font size 12.* The report should include the following sections:

- Background information
  - List of the program’s objectives and the procedures used
  - Summary of results
  - Discussion of the positive impact on the community’s oral health
  - Conclusions
  - Photographs, figures, forms/questionnaires or illustrated diagrams should be included where appropriate.
- b. **Cover Page.** A cover page that includes the following contact information for each student author/nominee: full name, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail.
- c. **Letter of Nomination.** A letter from the nominating faculty person outlining student(s)’ role in the project as well as each student’s class level in the dental school.
- d. **IRB.** If the project involved human subject research, a copy of the letter from the relevant Institutional Review Board **must** be included.

**5. E-mail confirmation of the submission.**

**III. EVALUATION**

Each project will be evaluated by multiple reviewers, according to the following six guidelines:

- Originality and design of the project
- Description of results and conclusions
- Quality of the results (data) from the project
- Level of student responsibility and leadership
- Community value of the project
- Demonstrated mastery of the subject

**IV. AWARDS**

First, second, and third place award winners are selected from submitted projects which have met the reviewers’ guidelines. These winners are required to present their projects as a part of the General Poster Session on Monday, April 15, 2024 at the 2024 National Oral Health Conference®, a joint meeting of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD). Award winners will be recognized and receive their award at the AAPHD Annual Business meeting on Sunday, April 14, 2024. Winners will also receive complimentary membership in the American Association of Public Health Dentistry for 2024 and electronic access for one year to the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry (JPHD)*.

**Please note:** *In order to receive the cash award the winner is required to attend and present their poster at the 2024 National Oral Health Conference®. Only one complimentary registration per project will be awarded and given to the individual who has been identified as the presenting author on the report. If no member of the project team is able to attend the 2024 NOHC, they will only receive the plaque, AAPHD membership and electronic access to the JPHD. The submitting author will receive the aforementioned items unless otherwise noted.*

**FIRST PLACE AWARD.** The First Place Award winner will receive complimentary registration and a cash award of \$500 to help defray the cost of attending the National Oral Health Conference®.

**SECOND PLACE AWARD.** The Second Place Award winner will receive complimentary registration and a cash award of \$200 to help defray the cost of attending the National Oral Health Conference®.

**THIRD PLACE AWARD.** The Third Place Award winner will receive complimentary registration and a cash award of \$100 to help defray the cost of attending the National Oral Health Conference®.

## **V. HONORABLE MENTION**

Honorable mention winners are invited to present their project as part of the General Poster Session on Monday, April 15, 2024. Honorable mentions will be recognized and receive their award at the AAPHD Annual Business meeting on Sunday, April 14, 2024. They will also receive complimentary membership in the American Association of Public Health Dentistry for 2024 and electronic access to the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry (JPHD)*.

If the Honorable Mention is attending NOHC, they will need to register for the conference and pay the appropriate conference registration fee. If they are not a resident member of AAPHD, they may register for the conference at the discounted “student member” rate.

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