



CALIFORNIA ACADEMY
OF NUTRITION & DIETETICS

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Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

FY 23-24 Awards Applicant Selection Criteria Packet

**Submission Deadline: Friday, February 16, 2024 at
5 pm Pacific Standard Time (PST)**



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I. About California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

The California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (CA Academy) is a non-profit 501c (6) membership association that is a state affiliate of the [Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#), the world's largest organization of nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

II. Awards Application Instructions

All awards, unless otherwise denoted, require the applicant to be a member of Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics at the time the award application is submitted and when receiving an award.

All award applicants must submit the following:

- An online award application.
- Resume or curriculum vitae (CV). *Note, this is NOT required for Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year, Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year, Emerging Dietetic Leader, Meritorious Service, or Friends of the California Academy award.*
- One-page narrative describing how you meet the award criteria (up to 3 pages is allowed for the Dolores Nyhus Memorial award). Use the selection criteria provided in this packet to craft your narrative. Use one-inch margins and the font size should be no smaller than 11-point font. *Note, this is NOT required for Meritorious Service or Friends of the California Academy award.*
- One letter of recommendation. Two letters are required for the Dolores Nyhus Memorial award. All recommendation letters must use the [CA Academy Recommendation letter template](#). No other recommendation letters will be accepted. *Note, this is NOT required for Meritorious Service or Friends of the California Academy award.*
- Headshot in jpg or png format.

For applicants who are applying for the same award in a consecutive year, you may reuse the same letters of recommendation that you previously submitted.

III. Award Submission

All applicants must complete the [CA Academy Award Application Form](#) by **Friday, February 16th, 2024 at 5 pm Pacific Standard Time (PST)**. Incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed.

IV. Awards Selection Process

The CA Academy Awards Committee will review all applications and will notify applicants if they receive an award no later than March 11, 2024.

V. Awards Presentation

Awards will be presented in-person at the [California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Conference \(CANDAC\)](#) Awards Ceremony on **Thursday, April 25, 2024** between 12 pm – 1 pm at Hilton San Francisco Union Square (333 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, CA).



VI. California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Awards

A. Dolores Nyhus Memorial Award

The Dolores Nyhus Memorial award is the highest award that a CA Academy member can receive in honor of the late Dolores Nyhus. The award recognizes the commitment to excellence made by an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the profession. The recipient will also be named Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Outstanding Dietitian of the Year. CA Academy members who are NOT eligible for this award include: California Academy paid employees, Award Committee members, CA Academy President and President-Elect, and recipients of the Distinguished Service Award within the last year.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Must be a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
- Lived and worked professionally in California for a minimum of 15 years (does not have to be consecutive years).
- Made significant contribution that enhances the dietetic profession in clinical nutrition, food service management, public health, research and/or other relevant dietetic practice fields either through employment or within the CA Academy.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.
- Provided outstanding service to the dietetic professional association at the district, region, state, and/or national level through active participation and leadership as an elected officer or committee/council member – or other positions beyond general participation.
- Mentored nutrition professionals, dietetic interns, or students.

B. Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Serve award is presented to an outstanding dietitian in California who has given exemplary service to the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. CA Academy members who are NOT eligible for this award include: California Academy paid employees, Award Committee members, CA Academy President and President-Elect.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Must be a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
- Demonstrated at least five years (does not have to be consecutive) of active service and leadership in the CA Academy as an elected officer, committee, or council member, or an elected officer or committee member at the district or region level.
- Exhibited outstanding professional performance.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.



- Made significant contributions to the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Mentored nutrition professionals, dietetic interns, or students.

C. Crystal Award

The Crystal Award is presented to CA Academy volunteers for the development and progress toward a CA Academy goal or activity, such developing strategies to increase membership, providing extensive support during the CA Academy Annual Conference, or creating a system to review state and federal bills that are aligned with the CA Academy's legislative priorities. A maximum of two awards will be given annually.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and a member of Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- The awardee(s) should have led or completed a project of a significant nature to the CA Academy and involving over 100 hours of volunteer work.

VII. California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Practice-Based Awards

The CA Academy Practice-Based awards are awards presented to members who have shown exemplary service in a specified dietetic practice area. You can only apply to **one** practice-based award category per year. All Practice-Based awards require applicants to demonstrate "active participation" in the dietetic or other profession associations. Active participation is defined as serving as a committee member, council member or elected officer position at the district, region, state, or national level that is beyond general participation as a member.

All nominees must be a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (or a Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered for the Technical Practice Award) and must have completed a **minimum of five years** in the relevant area of practice.

A. Carol Hayes Torio Excellence in Management

The Carol Hayes Torio Excellence in Management award is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in management dietetics in one of the following practice areas: clinical nutrition management, college and university food service, school food service, hospital food service, or business/industry/management.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with management of food and nutrition support/care services. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.
- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to management practice to a professional group.



- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - i. establishing and participating in innovative approaches to the management of food services and nutrition support/care services.
 - ii. teaching or mentoring others about management of food and nutrition support/care services.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

B. Excellence in Clinical Dietetics

Excellence in Clinical Dietetics is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in the practice of clinical dietetics, including clinical nutrition policy development.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with clinical dietetics. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.
- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to clinical dietetics to a professional group.
- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - i. establishing and participating in innovative approaches to clinical dietetics
 - ii. actively participated in training staff and dietetic interns in clinical dietetics.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

C. Excellence in Community Nutrition

The Excellence in Community Nutrition is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in the practice of community nutrition in one of the following areas of practice: community-based research, public health nutrition, nutrition education, and community nutrition program and evaluation.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with community nutrition. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.
- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to community nutrition to a professional group.
- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - iii. establishing and participating in innovative approaches to community nutrition related to community-based research, public health nutrition, nutrition education, community nutrition program and evaluation, or policy.



- iv. Teaching or mentoring others about community nutrition programs, program evaluation, public health nutrition, policy, nutrition education or research.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

D. Excellence in Private Practice, Business or Communications

The Excellence in Private Practice, Business or Communications award is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in private practice, business or communications, which includes the practice areas of patient counseling, consulting, technology, media and public relations.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with private practice, business, or communications. This includes active participation in a district, region or at the state level.
- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to private practice, business, or communications to a professional group.
- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - i. establishing and participating in innovative approaches to private practice, business, communications, patient counseling, consulting, technology, media or public relations.
 - ii. teaching or mentoring others about private practice, business, communications, patient counseling, consulting, technology, media or public relations.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

E. Excellence in Education

The Excellence in Education award is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in the practice of education in one of the following areas: educating the dietetic practitioner, teaching nutrition-related courses within medical, dental or nursing schools, or teaching nutrition-related courses for undergraduate, graduate, or post-doctoral nutrition/dietetic students.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned the practice of education in one of the following areas: educating the dietetic practitioner, teaching nutrition-related courses within medical, dental or nursing schools, or teaching nutrition-related courses for undergraduate, graduate, or post-doctoral nutrition/dietetic students. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.



- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to teaching nutrition/dietetic education to a professional group.
- Published a report, journal article, research brief, refereed article, or any other publications related to teaching nutrition/dietetic education.
- Demonstrated leadership in establishing and participating in innovative approaches to education or other areas of higher education or administration.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

F. Excellence in Research

The Excellence in Research award is given to a California Academy member for professional excellence in dietetic or nutrition research.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with nutrition and/or dietetics research. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.
- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to dietetic or nutrition research to a professional group.
- Published several reports, journal articles, research briefs, refereed articles, or any other publications related to dietetic or nutrition research.
- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - i. Contributing to the body of knowledge of dietetics/nutrition via research
 - ii. Teaching or mentoring others in a specialized field of research.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

G. Excellence in Technical Practice (for Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered or NTDRs)

The Excellence in Technical Practice is presented to a California Academy member for professional excellence in technical practice of dietetics in one of the following areas: clinical nutrition, community nutrition education, food service management, or nutrition care of patients.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a NTDR.
- Demonstrated leadership in Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, or other professional associations concerned with clinical nutrition, community nutrition education, food service management, or nutrition care of patients. This includes active participation in a district, region, state, or national level.



- Delivered presentations, seminars, webinars, workshops, trainings, and/or other educational events related to delivering programs, services, and patient care as a NTDR.
- Demonstrated leadership in:
 - i. establishing and participating in innovative approaches to technical practice
 - ii. teaching or mentoring others about technical practice of dietetics.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

VIII. California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Non-Academy Members

A. Meritorious Service Award

The Meritorious Service Award is presented to an individual or company who provides exceptional service for the dietetic profession. An example of a recipient may include (but not limited to) nurse practitioners, physicians, pharmacists, speech therapists, business owners, and/or other ancillary services. Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) and Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR) are **not** eligible for this award.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Previous winners are not eligible for this Award.
- Known to dietitians for exemplary service to the profession throughout the state or in a considerable portion of the state.

B. Friends of the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Friends of the California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Award is presented to an organization, media, or others who have made exceptional contribution to California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics but are not eligible for the Meritorious Service Award. Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) and Nutrition and Dietetics Technician Registered (NDTR) are **not** eligible for this award. A maximum of 2 awards will be given annually.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Contributions may be in the form of product, financial support, advertising or any other support of California Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics projects and activities.
- Please specify whether the company employs dietitians and their connection to the profession of dietetics.



IX. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Awards

Below is a list of awards from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The award winners will be published in the fall issue of the *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics* and will receive a certificate and a signed congratulatory letter for the President of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Award recipients who attend the Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo™ (FNCE®) the following fall may pick up a ribbon for their badge at the ribbon booth near registration.

A. Outstanding Dietitian of the Year Award

The Outstanding Dietitian of the Year award recognizes the commitment to excellence made by an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the profession. Recipients also are recognized as the Dolores Nyhus Memorial Award in honor of the late Dolores Nyhus. Please refer to the awards selection criteria for the Dolores Nyhus award for more information.

B. Emerging Dietetics Leader Award

The Emerging Dietetic Leader award recognizes the competence and activities of members, regardless of their age, who are at the beginning of their dietetics careers. Members who receive this honor support the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the public through demonstrating leadership in legislation, research, education, management, and other areas related to the profession.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Must have dietetic practice experience not less than 5 years and not greater than 10 years. Interrupted careers or time periods not in practice, are not to be considered or rationed into the 5-10 years of professional practice experience.
- Active participation in the district, region, state, or national dietetic professional association for a minimum of 5 years.
- Must be Registered Dietitian Nutritionist or Nutrition and Dietetic Technician, Registered.
- Not previously selected as a Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year (RYDY) or Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year (RDTY) in your current or any other state affiliate.
- Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
- Demonstrated leadership, in legislation, research, education, management, etc., in the Association, community or employment.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.



C. Recognized Nutrition and Dietetics Technician of the Year (RDTY) Award

The Recognized Nutrition and Dietetics Technician of the Year award recognizes the professional contributions of nutrition and dietetics technicians and encourages their continued participation in the community and Academy activities. Recipients demonstrate leadership qualities and performance in the Academy or their employment through education, clinical nutrition, foodservice management, public relations, career guidance and legislation.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Must be a Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered.
- Active participation in district, region, state, or national dietetic professional association.
- Not previously selected for this award in current or any other state affiliate.
- Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
- Demonstrated leadership, e.g., legislation, research, education, clinical dietetics, food service management, public relations, career guidance, etc., in the association or employment.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

D. Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award (RYDY)

The Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year award recognizes the competence and activities of younger dietitians in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and encourages their continued participation in Academy affairs. This group will be an additional resource from which the leadership of the Academy will develop – at the district, region, state, and national levels. The CA Academy can choose up to 1 RYDY award per district and region.

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Must be a Registered Dietitian or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
- Age limit as of award submission deadline, 35 years or younger.
- Active participation in district, region, state, or national dietetic professional association.
- Not previously selected as an RYDY in current or any other state affiliate.
- Demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population.
- Demonstrated leadership, e.g., in legislation, research, education, management, etc., either in the association or employment.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.



E. Outstanding Dietetics Student Award (ODSA)

The Outstanding Dietetics Student Award recognizes the emerging leadership and achievement of students in ACEND-accredited dietetics education programs and encourages their participation in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. A student from each type of education program listed below will be selected (maximum of five award winners). Students may not win ODSA more than one year, even if they are in a different category.

- Coordinated Program in Dietetics (CPD)
- Dietetic Internship (DI)
- Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)
- Graduate Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (GP)
- Dietetics Technician Program (DT)

Award Selection Criteria:

- Must be a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Students must be members by January 1st of the year in which they will receive the award. Students must supply their membership number; membership identification numbers will not be provided to a third party (i.e., educators).
- Students must be enrolled in ACEND-accredited dietetics education program (CP, DI, DPD, DT, GP).
- Demonstrated academic achievement as documented by letters from program faculty or preceptor.
- Demonstrated leadership and professional potential, e.g., honors, student dietetic association activities, community service activities, etc.
- Promoted Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access (I.D.E.A.) within the dietetic profession.

X. Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding the award application, you can contact Fatinah Darwish-Elsherbiny, Awards Committee Chair at pastpresident@dietitian.org.