



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM
REGENTS TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

2025 GUIDELINES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Nomination Deadline: December 13, 2024 – 11:59 p.m.

THE AWARD

The purpose of the Regents Teaching Excellence Awards is to recognize exemplary teaching by faculty, instructional academic staff, and departments/programs within the Universities of Wisconsin. These awards reflect UW's strong commitment to excellence and innovation in teaching and student learning.

Two awards of \$7,500 each will be made to faculty and/or instructional academic staff in recognition of outstanding **career achievement (minimum 10 years teaching experience)** within the Universities of Wisconsin. One \$7,500 award will be made to an academic department, program, or other academic unit which demonstrates exceptional commitment to, and effectiveness in, teaching and learning. The funds for this award are expected to be used for further program enhancements, such as professional development or teaching-related supplies and expenses.

It is anticipated that award recipients will be publicly recognized in Spring 2025.

NOMINEE CATEGORIES

Each UW campus may submit one nomination per category for a maximum of two nominations per university. Universities are encouraged to highlight their outstanding faculty, instructional academic staff, departments, and programs, and to submit a nomination in each category. All nominees will be acknowledged by the UW Board of Regents. We encourage you to engage your Teaching & Learning Center Director in the nomination process. Note: We have simplified the nomination process to encourage full participation by the UW's 13 institutions.

- **Individual** – UW System teaching faculty or instructional academic staff.
- **Department/Program** – UW System academic department, program, and other academic units.

NOMINATION MATERIALS – INDIVIDUAL AWARD

Criteria

- Critically reflective teaching that represents the nominee's professional and personal growth as an educator over the past 10 years or more teaching within the Universities of Wisconsin.
- Ongoing sustained engagement with scholarship on pedagogy, student learning, and evidence-based teaching practices.
- Participation in professional development programs sponsored by OPID, the university's teaching and learning center, and/or other organizations, or individually designed activities.
- Student-centered, equity-minded, and inclusive pedagogy that encourages all students to achieve academic success.
- Engaging pedagogical approaches which may include high-impact practices, such as community-based learning, internships, undergraduate research, intensive writing, learning communities, etc.
- Positive impact on the professional and personal development of students, as well as documented contributions to the nominee's department, division, university, and community.

Required Documentation

The nomination packet should address effective teaching and learning in the context of the Universities of Wisconsin, referencing relevant teaching initiatives and professional development opportunities that inform the nominee's teaching performance. You are welcome to include *excerpts* from your course syllabi, student evaluations, and other documents, as well as summaries of experiences and professional development activities to strengthen your teaching statement and/or annotated CV of teaching.

Nomination materials should be submitted as one pdf file, not exceeding 15 pages, and should include:

- **Endorsement form** signed by the Chancellor or Provost (1 page; form is provided)
- **Teaching statement** by the nominee on their teaching and learning philosophy, practices, and approaches, and how these have evolved over time (2-page limit).

The teaching statement should address the nominee's professional and personal growth as a teacher, including engagement with professional development and how these organized or individual activities have enhanced and contributed to their growth and development as an educator. The statement should also address how the assessment of student learning informs their teaching practice, and how the nominee has adopted and implemented equity-minded and innovative pedagogy into their teaching and learning practices.

- **Annotated CV of teaching** – Emphasize teaching-related information: education, academic employment, professional development and training, teaching-related publications and presentations, SoTL research projects, membership in teaching organizations, awards, teaching-related service and leadership, and other teaching-centered activities. This annotated CV on teaching should expand on a mere listing of activities. Briefly describe and contextualize the importance of selected activities to applicant’s teaching and impact on student learning. (8-page limit).

Note: You are welcome to include *excerpts* from your course syllabi, student evaluations, and other documents, as well as summaries of experiences and professional development activities to strengthen your teaching statement and/or annotated CV of teaching.

- **Two letters** addressing the quality and impact of the nominee’s teaching:
 - One letter from a current or former student that provides specific examples of the impact of the nominee’s teaching on the student’s learning and personal growth (2-page limit).
 - One letter from the department chair/program administration or a colleague (2-page limit).

NOMINATION MATERIALS – DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM AWARD

Criteria

- Critically reflective teaching that represents the department/program as a cohesive and collective unit.
- Supports the ongoing and sustained growth and professional development of the department/program’s faculty and instructional academic staff through discussions on pedagogy, student learning, participation in professional development programs sponsored by OPID, the university’s teaching and learning center, and/or other organizations.
- Data-based decision-making, such as analyzing DFW rates of students and strategic ways to improve students’ academic success.
- Active learning approaches, including the integration of high-impact practices, such as community-based learning, internships, undergraduate research, intensive writing, learning communities, etc.
- Equity-minded approach to ensure excellence in teaching and learning for the success of all students

- Recruiting, retaining, graduating, and supporting students after graduation with employment, graduate school, etc.

Required Documentation

Nomination materials should be submitted as one pdf file, not exceeding 15 pages, and should include:

- **Endorsement form** signed by Chancellor or Provost (1 page; form is provided)
- **Fact sheet** describing the department/program with details such as degrees and certificates offered, faculty and academic staff short bios, statistics of students recruited, retained, and graduated (2-page limit).
- **Annotated teaching statement** contextualizing the department/program's mission, goals, objectives, and strategies, and how these have evolved over time. This annotated teaching statement should expand on a mere listing of activities. Briefly describe and contextualize the importance of selected activities to applicant's teaching and impact on student learning. You are welcome to include excerpts and summaries of course syllabi, student evaluations, and other documents, experiences, and activities. (8-page limit).
- **Two letters of support** – one letter from the department/program's dean or colleague, one letter from a current or former student (2-page limit for each letter).

Nomination materials are subject to release under Wisconsin Open Records laws and should be written with the possibility of those materials being made publicly available.

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

Each university will determine its own nomination procedures. Nominations should be submitted to the central office designated by each respective university. Check with your university administration office for any university deadlines that precede the UW Administration due date.

After each university identifies the nominees that they would like to forward to the Board of Regents for consideration, it submits the nomination PDFs via <https://www.wisconsin.edu/regents/regent-awards/regent-awards/>.

Submit nomination PDFs no later than 11:59 p.m. – December 13, 2024

Questions regarding the award may be directed to Fay Akindes, Director, Systemwide Professional and Instructional Development, at fay.akindes@wisconsin.edu or board@wisconsin.edu.