CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

150

ARKANSAS MEDICAL SOCIETY

Call for Award Nominations

The Arkansas Medical Society is accepting nominations for awards to be given at the 2027 Annual Membership Meeting. These awards are designed to recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of medical professionals at different career stages, as well as individuals who have made an impact on healthcare in Arkansas.

1. ***Best Medical Student*** *(three [3] awards per medical school year (2-4) from all four medical schools in the state). 1st year students are not eligible to apply.*

2. ***Best Resident*** *(one [1] award for every medical and surgical specialty residency program in the state, except Internal Medicine and Family Medicine which will have three [3] awards each. Interns are not eligible to apply for the awards.*

3. ***Best Fellows*** *(six [6] across the state from all subspecialties).*

4. ***Best Faculty*** *(twelve [12] awards for physician and non-physician faculty in medical schools & training programs)*

5. ***Lifetime Achievement Awards*** *for physicians, healthcare executives, and volunteers in healthcare (two [2] awards in each category).*

Where: Oaklawn Event Center, Hot Springs: April 16th & 17th, 2027

Deadlines for Submission: December 6, 2026

Awardees will be notified by December 31, 2026

How to Submit: Email to awards@arkmed.org.

Please include the award category in the subject line (e.g., Best Resident or Lifetime Achievement, etc.).

Review Process

A distinguished committee of physician leaders and academicians will review all nominations. Notification of honorees will be sent out by December 31, 2026. The awardees will be recognized with a plaque and certificate at the conference.

Dr. Ahmed Abuabdou, District 8 member of the AMS Board of Trustees, serves as Chairman of the Awards Committee. For questions, email awards@arkmed.org.

Award Guidelines

Best Medical Student Award

The award recognizes medical students who excel in humanism/professionalism, leadership/service, community service, research, and academics.

Nominations:

- Nominations can be submitted by oneself, classmates, faculty, or the Dean/Associate Dean.

Required Documentation:

- CV and at least one letter of support from faculty, the Dean, or other relevant officials.

Award Criteria:

- Consideration is given to academic achievements, research/publications, leadership roles, and community engagement/service.
- A student can win an award only twice during their medical school career. They cannot win the award in consecutive years. If submitting for a second award after winning the same one earlier, they must have done significant work in the meantime.
- They can be nominated multiple times if they have not won in previous years.

Best Resident/Fellow Award

The award recognizes residents/fellows who excel in patient care, humanism/professionalism, leadership/service, community service, research, and academics.

Nominations:

- Nominations can be submitted by oneself, colleagues, faculty, Program or Associate Program Director, Chair, Dean, etc.

Required Documentation:

- CV and at least one letter of support from faculty, etc.

Award Criteria:

- Excellence in patient care, empathy, research/publication, leadership activities, and community service are considered.
- A person can be awarded only twice with this award during their residency (whether the residency is 3 or 7 years long). If submitting for a second award after winning the same one earlier, they must have done significant work in the meantime. They cannot apply for consecutive years if they have won the award in the previous year. Fellows can be awarded only once during their fellowship. Interns are not eligible.
- They may be nominated multiple times if they have not won in previous years.

Best Faculty Award (Physician Category)

The award recognizes faculty who excel in academics/teaching, patient care, community service, humanism/professionalism, leadership/service, and research.

Award Categories:

- Early Career (within 7 years of practice start in their respective specialty)
- Mid-Career (8-15 years of practice in their respective specialty)
- Late-Career (more than 15 years of practice in their respective specialty)

Nominations:

- Nominations can be submitted by students, colleagues, the Chair, the Dean, or leadership in their institution.

Required Documentation:

- CV and at least two letters of support from above, including one from Chair/Chief of Department/Program.

Award Criteria:

- Consideration is given to patient care, teaching, research/publication, leadership activities, and community service.
- A candidate can only be awarded once in their respective career categories. Early Career category physicians should have worked for 3 years before applying for the award. If they have been awarded previously, they cannot be considered again for at least 3 years, provided they have done significant work during the interim period.
- They can be nominated multiple times if they have not won in previous years.

Best Faculty Award (Non-Physician Category-PhDs, etc.)

The award recognizes nonclinical faculty who excel in academics/teaching, community service, humanism/professionalism, leadership/service, and research.

Nominations:

- Nominations can be submitted by students, colleagues, the Chair, Dean, or leadership within their institution.

Required Documentation:

- CV and at least two support letters from above, including one from the Chair, Chief of Department, or Program.

Award Criteria:

- Consideration is given to teaching, research and publication, leadership activities, and community service.
- A candidate can only be awarded twice in their career. If they have been awarded earlier, they cannot be considered again for at least 5 years, provided they have done significant work during the intervening period of 5 years or more.
- They can be nominated multiple times if they have not won in previous years.

Lifetime Achievement Awards

This award category recognizes the recipient's lifelong commitment to advancing the health and well-being of Arkansans.

There are five sub-categories under the Lifetime Achievement Awards:

- **Lifetime Achievement Award (Physician-Academics):** This award recognizes and honors physicians in academics who have made significant contributions to improving the health and well-being of Arkansans through patient care, education, service, and research or scholarship over a minimum of 25 years.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award (Physician-Private Practice):** This award recognizes and honors physicians in private practice who have made significant contributions to improving the health and well-being of Arkansans through patient care, community service, and leadership over a minimum of 25 years while practicing in private, nonacademic setting.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award (Physician-Rural Practice):** This award recognizes and honors physicians in practice who have made significant contributions to improving the health and well-being of Arkansans through patient care, community service, and leadership over a minimum of 25 years while practicing in a rural area of Arkansas.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award (Healthcare Leadership):** This award recognizes and honors healthcare executives and leaders who have made significant contributions to improving the health and well-being of Arkansans through leadership in Arkansas-based healthcare organizations for at least 25 years.

- **Lifetime Achievement Awards (Auxiliary/Volunteer):** This award recognizes and honors individuals who have made significant contributions to improving the health and well-being of Arkansans through volunteer service in healthcare organizations for at least 10 years.

Nominations:

- Nominations can be submitted by any individual who is familiar with the nominee's attributes that the award embodies.
- Self-nomination is NOT allowed.

Required Documentation:

- A cover letter from the nominator outlining the nominee's qualifications and contributions to the health and well-being of Arkansans.
- CV (Resume) outlining education, positions, activities, memberships, research/publications, awards/honors, leadership/service, and other relevant information.
- Additional letters of support with reflections on the nominee's contributions and services in their respective categories will be accepted and reviewed but are not required.

Each awardee will receive a Medallion and a Plaque.