



WAYNE STATE
Office of the Provost

Community Engagement Award

To celebrate work that strengthens the bond between university and community, the Wayne State University Provost's Office established an annual **Community Engagement Award**, to be given each year to up to five (5) full-time or part-time faculty member(s), academic staff member(s), or faculty-staff team(s) in recognition of community-based research, creative activities, teaching, and service collaborations that positively impact both the community and scholarship.

Part-time faculty: You must be active in a course pool at WSU to be eligible, and hold an active assignment at WSU receive the award.

For the purposes of this award, community can be defined broadly and need not be assumed as limited to a specific locality. An individual who receives the award in one award year is not eligible to be nominated again until five additional award cycles have been completed. Each award consists of a citation, an engraved plaque, and an unrestricted award of \$5000.

Faculty, administrators, staff, colleagues, students, or community partners can initiate nominations; self-nominations are also welcome. For the award cycles from 2024 through 2027, activities since 2018 are eligible. For award cycles starting in 2028, activities from the prior 3 years are eligible. Nomination letters will contain relevant examples of one or more of the following:

- community-engaged research
- community-engaged creative activity
- community-engaged teaching
- community-engaged service
- creation of a particular community outreach program
- development of a sustained positive relationship with a community partner in support of the university's mission or community

[Nominations must be submitted online](#) by **December 1** and must include:

1. A nomination letter, signed by the nominator (or, if a self-nomination, the nominee) is required and must include a paragraph that provides a concise description of the community-based activity that makes the nominee a fitting candidate for the award.
2. A brief statement of no more than three pages describing the community engagement in some detail. (Statements over three pages will not be considered.)
3. Supporting letters from two persons familiar with the community engagement (faculty, administrators, colleagues, students, or community partners).
4. Supporting documents as available (reviews, endorsements, references, etc.).
5. The WSU professional record or CV of the nominee(s).
6. A draft citation for the award ceremony booklet of approximately 250 words, avoiding the use of direct quotes from letters or reviewers.

Competitions for these awards are considered annually, and awards will be presented at the Academic Recognition Ceremony. A selection advisory committee consisting of three (3) to five (5) faculty or academic staff members who have previously received the award will make recommendations for the award. Review committees are composed of faculty from diverse disciplines. Therefore, please write for highly educated professionals outside your discipline. Successful applications are crafted specifically to the award, and include subheadings aligned with the rubric criteria.

Questions about the process or award may be directed to the [Office of Faculty Affairs and Development](#).

Community Engagement Recognition Award Selection Rubric

Construct and Evidence	1	2	3	4	Score
<p>1. The program, research, etc. in question has significant, beneficial impact on the community in the short term that can reasonably be expected to continue in the long term. (50%)</p> <p>Evidence obtained from: Nomination letter, statement, supporting documents</p>	<p>No evidence of significant, beneficial impact on the community, short term or otherwise.</p>	<p>Some evidence of significant, beneficial impact on the community in the short term that can reasonably be expected to continue in the long term, but no specific examples, or vague examples.</p>	<p>Compelling evidence of significant, beneficial impact on the community in the short term that can reasonably be expected to continue in the long term, with some (1-2) specific examples.</p>	<p>Definitive evidence of significant, beneficial impact on the community in the short term that can reasonably be expected to continue in the long term, with several (3+) specific examples.</p>	
<p>2. The program, research, etc. in question is connected to Wayne State's mission to create and advance knowledge, prepare a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities. (30%)</p> <p>Evidence obtained from: Nomination letter, supporting documents</p>	<p>The program, research, etc. in question does not appear to be connected to Wayne State's mission in any way.</p>	<p>The program, research, etc. in question is loosely connected to Wayne State's mission, but the connection is not articulated effectively.</p>	<p>The program, research, etc., has a clear connection to Wayne State's mission which is articulated effectively.</p>	<p>The program, research, etc., has a striking connection to Wayne State's mission which is articulated clearly and effectively.</p>	
<p>3. The program, research, etc. in question generates a benefit to students in terms of academic and professional growth as well as growth as citizens. (15%)</p> <p>Evidence obtained from: Nomination letter, supporting documents</p>	<p>No evidence that the program, research, etc. in question generates a benefit to students in terms of academic and professional growth.</p>	<p>Some evidence that the program, research, etc. in question generates a benefit to students in terms of academic and professional growth, but no specific examples, or vague examples.</p>	<p>Compelling evidence that the program, research, etc. in question generates a benefit to students in terms of academic and professional growth, with some (1-2) specific examples.</p>	<p>Definitive evidence that the program, research, etc. in question generates a benefit to students in terms of academic and professional growth, with several (3+) specific examples.</p>	
<p>4. The program, research, etc. in question made a unique or extraordinary contribution to the relevant literature (e.g., pedagogy, transdisciplinary, disciplinary) or body of public knowledge. (5%)</p> <p>Evidence obtained from: Nomination letter, supporting documents</p>	<p>The program, research, etc. in question made no contribution to the relevant literature or body of public knowledge.</p>	<p>Evidence that the program, research, etc. in question contributed to the relevant literature or body of public knowledge.</p>	<p>Evidence that the program, research, etc. in question made a unique or extraordinary contribution to the relevant literature or body of public knowledge.</p>	<p>Evidence that the program, research, etc. in question made a unique or extraordinary contribution to more than one area of relevant literature or body of public knowledge.</p>	
Weighted Sum					

The purpose of this rubric is to support a standardized and transparent award selection process. This may be changed or updated on a yearly basis.