



2027 ACGME John C. Gienapp Distinguished Service Award Frequently Asked Questions



Why did the ACGME establish the John C. Gienapp Award?

John C. Gienapp, PhD served as executive director of the ACGME for 19 years and made significant contributions to graduate medical education (GME) and the accreditation process during his tenure. Upon Dr. Gienapp's retirement, the John C. Gienapp Distinguished Service Award was established in his honor to recognize those who, like him, have dedicated themselves to GME and have made outstanding contributions to the enhancement of residency and fellowship education and ACGME accreditation activities, including:

- serving on and chairing a Review Committee or other ACGME committee
- serving as a specialist site visitor or on an Appeals Panel
- volunteering for special Review Committee or other ACGME assignment(s) that contributed to revising requirements
- assisting Review Committee staff members in the implementation of new or innovative projects to improve the accreditation process

What is required for a nomination?

Two components are required for a nomination:

1. A **signed letter** that summarizes the nominee's preeminent contributions to GME and/or ACGME activities; and,
2. A current curriculum vitae (CV) for the nominee (this must include the nominee's contact information (phone number, mailing address, and email address)).

If the individual was previously nominated for but did not receive this award, an updated nomination must be submitted (updated CV and nomination letter) for reconsideration.

Who must sign group letters?

All contributors to group letters must sign.

Are signatures generated by DocuSign acceptable?

Yes. Otherwise, signatures should be handwritten on the letters or use other platforms that generate electronic signatures.

How are nominations submitted?

Submit the [online application](#) and email the support letter and current CV according to the directions on the application. All materials (CV and support letters) must arrive by email in **one PDF (portable PDF files are not acceptable)**. To do this, assemble all materials, scan them, then email the resulting PDF. **Material received in piecemeal or that includes unsigned letters will not be accepted.** Direct any questions to acgmeawards@acgme.org or 312.755.5059. **Note: Do not email the nomination form; only the PDF containing the CV and support letters should be sent via email.**

What is the deadline for nominations?

All nominations (including the support letter, CV, and completion of the online form) must be submitted before 5:00 p.m. Central on **Wednesday, March 18, 2026**. Nominations received after the deadline and/or submitted piecemeal will not be considered.



2027 ACGME John C. Gienapp Distinguished Service Award Frequently Asked Questions



What is awarded?

- Awardees receive a \$1,000 cash award and a plaque.
- Travel expenses paid by the ACGME for the recipient and a guest to travel to the 2027 ACGME Annual Educational Conference, where the award will be presented. Conference registration will be waived for the awardee. The 2027 conference will take place on February 25-27 in San Antonio, Texas.

When will the award winners be announced?

Selections will be made by the ACGME Awards Committee at its fall 2026 meeting, and shortly thereafter recipients will be notified. Award announcements will then be published in a press release, the *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, and the ACGME *e-Communication*, as well as on the ACGME website and social media accounts.

When will the award be presented?

Awards will be presented at the 2027 ACGME Annual Educational Conference.