

## Description

The Department of Psychology's **Open Science Impact Award** is given annually to recognize outstanding efforts by faculty and trainees to carry out research in a manner consistent with open science principles. Two awards will be administered for each submission cycle—one intended to recognize faculty-led efforts and one intended to recognize trainee-led efforts. Nominations for either individuals or teams are permitted. Acknowledging the variety of approaches and unique considerations under which psychological research is conducted, award recipients may demonstrate their adherence to open science principles in a variety of ways and across different points of the research lifecycle (e.g., preregistration, data management/sharing, open access publishing).

Award winners will receive a certificate from the department and a \$1000 cash prize. Honorable Mention recipients will also be recognized.

## Nomination Guidelines

- A. All nominees must be affiliated with at least one area in the Department of Psychology (Clinical, CNS, Counseling, Developmental, SDOS). Self-nominations are welcome.
- B. Nominees for an individual faculty-led award may be tenured, tenure-track, or professional-track faculty. Nominees for an individual trainee-led award must be a graduate student who is currently enrolled and in good standing in either a PhD program or MPS program, or a current post-doctoral scholar.
- C. A single individual or a team of individuals may be nominated for the award. The following considerations apply specifically to submissions for team nominations:
  - a. A team submission must clearly identify a "lead" individual for purposes of the award nomination. Determination of the lead individual should be based on the relative efforts, responsibility, and contributions of the individual to initiating/conducting the open science practices on the project, rather than responsibility/contribution to the project's idea generation, funding, study materials, data collection/analysis, etc. This designation will be used to determine whether the nomination will be considered a faculty-led or trainee-led award.
  - b. Team submissions are best considered for cases in which multiple individuals working on the same project all took an active role in initiating/conducting the open science practices for the project. In cases where multiple individuals contributed to or worked on a research project but a single/subset of individuals were responsible for the open science practices, only that person/those persons should be considered for the award nomination.
  - c. Team submissions should clearly delineate which and how each member included in a nomination actively contributed towards the open science practices performed for the project.
  - d. Team submissions may include undergraduate students or post-baccalaureates who contributed towards initiating/conducting the open science practices. However, undergraduate students and post-baccalaureates may not be designated as the lead individual on a nomination.
  - e. If a team submission is selected as the award recipient, the entire team will receive a single monetary award to be split among the nominated members at their discretion.
- D. The award is intended to recognize efforts to engage in open science practices directed towards a recent or ongoing research project, as opposed to recognizing a history of participating in, promoting, or championing open science practices. For purposes of the award, the definition of a "research project" is purposefully broad to be inclusive of differences in the methodologies used by and time spans over which faculty and trainees conduct their research (e.g., field settings, lab-based/experimental designs, longitudinal designs, research with unique/difficult to reach populations, online/survey research). A research project does not need to be completed to qualify for the award. Irrespective of project details, the nomination package should clearly explain which and how the open science practices conducted by the nominee(s) contributed directly to improving the openness, transparency, and/or accessibility of the project and its products.

## Submission Details

A complete nomination package should include the following information:

- A. Summary of the research project, not to exceed one single-spaced page
- B. Description of the open science practices initiated/conducted for the research project, not to exceed two single-spaced pages
  - a. Only open science practices that were completed or for which a significant portion of the work has been completed should be included. Planned or anticipated activities should not be discussed.
  - b. Where appropriate and possible, links should be provided to the products resulting from the open science practices (e.g., preregistration documents, publicly accessible repositories for study materials/data, preprints, open access publications)
- C. For team submissions, a description of which individual is to be considered the “lead” for the nomination and the contributions all individuals included in the nomination made to the open science practices performed for the project

## Criteria for Selecting Award Winners

Submissions will be evaluated by the degree to which nominee(s) initiated and conducted open science practices on a research project that sought to improve:

- A. transparency of the research design, methodology, and analyses
- B. findability, accessibility, interoperability and/or reusability of data generated by the research
- C. accessibility and dissemination of non-data products generated by the research (e.g., study materials, measures, code, publications).

Note that a nomination is **NOT REQUIRED** to demonstrate or engage in open science practices from all three areas to qualify for the award. A nomination may describe open science practices conducted in one, two, or all three of the areas listed above. Both the “breadth” and “depth” of involvement in open science practices for the research project will be taken into consideration when evaluating submissions.

Table 1 offers a non-exhaustive list of activities that could be conducted during a research project which correspond to the three areas described above. Additional activities relevant to the award criteria but which may not fit exactly within one of these areas may be discussed as well. In all cases, submissions should provide sufficient detail to understand what activities were performed.

**Table 1**

Example open science practices

Improving transparency of the research design, methodology, and analyses	Improving findability, accessibility, interoperability and/or reusability of data generated by the research	Improving accessibility and dissemination of non-data products generated by the research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission and adherence to pre-registration protocols</li> <li>• Writing and adhering to a data management plan</li> <li>• Pursuit of alternative publication procedures such as registered reports or result-blind reviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posting data on publicly accessible repositories</li> <li>• Creating metadata (e.g., <a href="#">FAIR</a> data) or similar documentation that facilitate sharing and interpretation of data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posting and documenting study materials (e.g., procedures, measures, analysis code) in publicly accessible repositories</li> <li>• Creating and registering publicly accessible pre-prints of complete manuscripts</li> <li>• Publishing manuscripts in open access journals</li> </ul>

## Administrative Procedures

1. The Department of Psychology's Awards Committee will be responsible for soliciting and receiving all submissions. The Department of Psychology's Open Science Committee will be responsible for reviewing all submissions and selecting awardees.
2. The Department of Psychology's Open Science Committee will create the award announcement, containing the description, nomination guidelines, and selection criteria. Annual refinements may occur.
3. Preference will be given to nominees who have not received an award or who are working in labs that have not received the award in the past 3 years. However, any nominee not selected for an award during a given year are encouraged to reapply in subsequent cycles.
4. Deadline for submissions is April 1 each year. Award recipients will be selected by May 1 each year.

## FAQ

- *Can I indicate that I would use the award to pay/support an open science activity (e.g., cover open access publishing fees) if received and still have that prospective activity "count" towards the evaluation of my submission?*
  - The Open Science Impact award is intended to recognize and reward activities that one has already performed as opposed to providing a resource to support prospectively engaging in such activities per se. You may indicate that you would put the monetary award towards supporting an open science activity if you wish, but the submission evaluation will only consider activities that have already been performed. Faculty or trainees looking for grants/resources to directly support open science activities may be interested in those provided by the [UMD library](#), the [Center for Open Science](#), or the [Society for the Improvement of Psychological Science](#).
- *I have engaged in a variety of activities intended to improve the rigor, reproducibility, and/or robustness of my research project (i.e., increasing the sample sizes used for my work, conducting pilot/validation studies to support my main research project, conducting/publishing replication studies, etc.). However, these don't appear to meet or fit well within the evaluation criteria/categories for the Open Science Impact award. Should I discuss such activities and/or will they be considered when selecting award recipients?*
  - There are many important activities that can be performed to enhance the validity, reliability, and trustworthiness of research (for example, see [here](#)). The Department of Psychology strongly encourages all faculty and trainees to participate in and incorporate as many of these activities as possible in the work they conduct. At this time however, the Open Science Impact award is intended to primarily recognize efforts that promote the transparency and accessibility of research conducted/produced by faculty and trainees. Consequently, only activities that contribute directly to these core themes of open science will be considered when evaluating and selecting award winners.