



# Chancellor's Horizon Award for Faculty Research and Scholarship

**Objective:** The award honors early career faculty whose scholarly or creative activities have already achieved significant recognition and, crucially, hold strong promise for field-defining impact in the future. This award is open to faculty across all disciplines, including performance-based or creative disciplines and those that focus on pedagogical research.

**Eligibility:** Early career faculty. Specifically, eligibility is limited to faculty in tenure-track or tenured positions, or the equivalent, who are up to seven years beyond the date of initial appointment to a tenure-track position. The seven-year tenured or tenure-track experience maximum includes tenured or tenure-track positions (or the equivalent) held at other SUNY institutions or at institutions outside of the SUNY system. The nominee must hold a full-time teaching appointment as defined by their campus. "Qualified" appointments, such as visiting or clinical faculty positions, as defined by the Board of Trustees policy, are not eligible for this award. Nominees must have been employed by a SUNY campus for at least one year and must currently be employed at one of the 64 campuses in the SUNY system. Campuses are encouraged to nominate candidates who reflect the diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and expertise within the SUNY system.

## **Nomination process:**

Each campus must only submit one nomination portfolio for consideration on the System level.

The Horizon Award nominations forwarded to the System level must be the product of a rigorous campus review. Further, the nomination process should benefit from the involvement of a broad spectrum of the campus community.

Under no circumstance may faculty apply or self-nominate for this award.

Campuses should establish a selection committee to solicit nominations and conduct unbiased evaluations of the merits of proposed candidates and are responsible for forwarding all nominees to the campus provost for approval. The campus committee must determine that each candidate meets, and preferably surpasses, the selection criteria for the Horizon Award.

Initial nominations must come to the campus selection committee from faculty with full professor status or its equivalent in the same or related department or division as the nominee and on the same campus. The nominator must have sufficient disciplinary expertise to determine the qualifications of the nominee for this award. The campus selection committee's deliberations and their final recommendation to the campus provost must be kept confidential.

When the nominee has been recommended by the selection committee and approved by the campus Provost to be forwarded to System Administration, a nomination portfolio should be assembled and submitted following provided instructions.

**Nomination portfolio:**

- Abstract: 200 words maximum. This abstract must explain the nominee's scholarship or creative work and explain its innovative qualities along with its current and potential impact in the field.
- Nomination letter: No longer than two pages. The faculty nominator must explain their connection to the nominee and disciplinary qualifications for assessing the nominee's scholarship or creative work. The bulk of the letter must provide evidence for the current recognition and impact of the nominee's work and the promise for field-defining impact in the future. It is particularly important to explain the strengths of the nominee's work and the recognition achieved in relation to their early career status.
- External letter of support: No longer than two pages. A letter from a senior scholar in the field who is **not** from the nominee's dissertation committee or from their degree-granting institution. The external recommender should also **not** be the nominee's postdoctoral supervisor. In this letter, the faculty member must explain their qualifications for making a determination of the nominee's caliber as a scholar/artist and provide evidence for the current recognition and impact of the nominee's work and the promise for field-defining impact in the future. It is particularly important to explain the strengths of the nominee's work and the recognition achieved in relation to their early career status.
- CV: No longer than five pages.
- Approval and certification form with the signature of the campus provost, signifying their approval of the nomination and certification that the campus has followed the appropriate processes as detailed here. The approval and certification form is available as a fillable pdf on the webpage.

**Applications with materials that go beyond these page maximums will be disqualified.**

**Submission portal:**

Please submit nomination portfolios via the submission portal on the [Academic Affairs awards webpage](#). A Google account will be necessary to upload materials.

The submission portal will generate a submission receipt. If a receipt has not been received, it is the campus's responsibility to reach out to [awards@suny.edu](mailto:awards@suny.edu) for confirmation.

For reasons of confidentiality, System Administration will only communicate with the provost or their designee about the campus's nominee.

**Deadline:** November 11, 2026, the second Wednesday of November

**Questions:** Email [awards@suny.edu](mailto:awards@suny.edu)

**Review:** These nomination portfolios will be reviewed by Distinguished Academy faculty, who will be supported by System Administration staff; they will make recommendations to the SUNY Provost, who will make recommendations to the Chancellor. In their review, the committee will work to ensure an equitable distribution of awards in terms of disciplines and campus sectors, to the extent possible. Up to ten awards will be conferred; awardees will receive a recognition letter from the Chancellor, certificate, and Horizon Award pin.