

LSU College of Science Excellence in Mentoring Awards

Number of awards

Two per year. One is for tenure-track/tenured faculty and the other for non-tenure-track faculty.

Eligibility requirements

For consideration, the candidates must be faculty members in the College of Science who have not received this award previously. Faculty should be nominated by their department, peers, students, or postdocs for excellence in mentoring individuals from groups that are underrepresented in science. Underrepresented groups differ according to the discipline, and guidance is available from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), per the websites shared below. For example, in science and engineering or biomedical or clinical research, the following links may be useful.

<https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/2017/nsf17310/digest/introduction/>

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html>

<https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/showpub.cfm?TopID=2&SubID=27>

Mentored individuals may include students (undergraduate or graduate) or postdocs. The award recognizes exemplary service in mentoring groups persistently underrepresented in science and mathematics, thereby recognizing faculty who serve as catalysts of change. To this end, exemplary faculty mentors who have worked with U.S. Citizens and permanent residents will receive priority in the review process. Faculty with exemplary records in mentoring individuals that are foreign-born or are studying or working on a visa are eligible if the mentees are from a group identified as underrepresented based on the criteria above.

Faculty advisors to student clubs and activities (for example, SAACS, NOBCCHE, SACNAS, Pre-Med clubs, etc.) are eligible, provided faculty are actively engaged in mentoring based on the criteria above. General service as a faculty advisor is not sufficient evidence of exemplary mentoring.

Information to be included in the nomination packages

Letter of nomination

CV

Mentoring Philosophy (1 page).

List of individuals from underrepresented groups mentored (with their degree and year if applicable).

Two or three letters from former individuals mentored.

Who should nominate?

Departments are encouraged to broadly solicit nominations within the unit, from faculty, students, and postdocs. Students and postdocs are encouraged to notify the Department Chair and/or Departmental Awards Committee Chair that they are nominating a faculty member for the Mentoring Award. To avoid a conflict of interest, mentors should not request a nomination or supporting letters from their current students and postdocs. Also, mentees are asked not to notify their mentors of a nomination.