

2024 Washington State Prevention Awards of Excellence

Overview

Goals

The goals of the Washington State Prevention Awards of Excellence are to:

- Identify superior substance use disorder prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, violence prevention and mental health promotion programs with exceptional outcomes that can be adopted or adapted by others,
- Recognize outstanding community partners, including youth engaged in prevention efforts as well as honoring Tribal and Urban Indian work in prevention and,
- Focus statewide attention on exceptional prevention work.

2023 Timeline

April 15, 2024	Announcement and nomination packet distributed
July 17, 2024 by midnight	Deadline for nomination submission
September 3, 2024	Notify awardees
October/November 2024	Day and location to be shared as more information becomes available

Application Procedures

Nominations can be submitted by email or by completing the nomination Survey [here](#). **Submit one nomination per Nomination Survey. Please include all relevant details as the review committee will only be using the information that you provide to assess the nominee’s suitability for an award.** Nominations with missing or otherwise incomplete information may not be able to be scored properly due to missing information.

Prevention awards of excellence categories and criteria

- **Tribal and urban Indian prevention efforts –**
Purpose: To recognize Tribal and urban Indian program leaders, groups, organizations, businesses, or agencies that deliver prevention services within their communities.
 - **Nominees** must be a strong prevention leader, group, organization, business, or agency from a Tribal or urban Indian community. Nominators should demonstrate the nominee’s leadership, successful program implementation or support, involvement in prevention efforts, and commitment to substance use disorder prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, violence prevention, or mental health promotion.
 - Nominees can be a Tribal or urban Indian leader, group, youth council, or Tribal prevention organization (task force, coalition, workgroup)
- **Youth leader –**
Purpose: To recognize school age youth in grades 6 – 12th.
 - To be considered for this award, nominators should demonstrate that nominees have regularly participated in community and/or school prevention activities for a minimum of one year and have demonstrated peer leadership, teamwork, and volunteerism.
 - Nominees can be an individual, group, or club

- **Young adult leader –**

Purpose: To recognize young adults working in substance use disorder prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, or mental health promotion.

- To be considered for this award, nominators should demonstrate that nominees have regularly participated in community and/or school prevention activities for a minimum of one year and have demonstrated peer leadership, teamwork, and volunteerism.
- Nominees can be an individual, group, or club

- **Prevention professional, Lifetime Achievement, and/or community prevention supporter**

Purpose: To recognize individuals associated with an organization, business, or agency, or individuals demonstrating active support of prevention activities or programs.

- To be considered for this award, nominees must be strong prevention leaders or supporters in their community. Nominators should demonstrate the nominee’s leadership, effective service delivery, community involvement in prevention efforts, and their commitment to substance use disorder prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, violence prevention, or mental health promotion.
- The Lifetime Achievement nominee must have contributed to Prevention for at least 10 years and are planning to leave Prevention to engage in retirement or other career pursuits.
- This category is specifically for an individual and includes the Lifetime Achievement Award

- **Community coalition and/or community prevention group**

Purpose: To recognize groups providing excellent prevention programs to a community.

- To be considered for this award, nominators should demonstrate the nominee’s leadership in the community or Tribe and extent of partnerships, effective service delivery, impact on the community or Tribe, and their ongoing commitment to prevention.
- Nominees can be a CBO, CPWI, DFC, or another group not affiliated with DBHR

- **Contributions to prevention by an organization, business, or agency**

Purpose: To recognize entities in the community that assist or support coalition or group prevention activities.

- To be considered for this award, nominators should demonstrate the nominee’s leadership, partnership, community involvement and any major and sustainable contribution to prevention.
- Examples: library regularly donating space, business regularly providing media support

- **Early-Career Prevention Professional**

Purpose: To recognize an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate, or post-doctoral prevention professional in substance use disorder prevention, problem gambling prevention, suicide prevention, violence prevention, or mental health promotion who have made intellectual contributions to the generation or dissemination of scientific evidence regarding effective prevention programs and practices.

- To be considered for this award, nominators should demonstrate that nominees have regularly participated in scholarly prevention activities and professional development (such as program evaluation, evidence dissemination, or scholarly outreach) for a minimum of one year and have demonstrated leadership in translating their scholarly contributions into real-world practice.
- This category is specifically for an individual.

Selection process

A review committee, with representatives from state agencies, state-wide organizations, as well as non-profit organizations, reviews, evaluate and select the nominations based on the stated criteria and information provided within the nomination document. Every attempt will be made to ensure that awardees represent a range of demographic, ethnic, cultural, and geographic areas.

Benefits of the Washington State Prevention Awards of Excellence

Awardees will be honored in October/November 2024 at the 2024 Washington State Prevention Summit. Day and location of the Summit will be shared as more information becomes available. The awards will recognize the efforts of dedicated individuals, successful programs, and supportive organizations; celebrate their successes; and share their strategies, programs, and accomplishments with others in the field. Additional benefits may include local recognition and a greater ability to market programs, recruit volunteers, and/or leverage other resources to support their work. All awarded individuals, groups, organizations, and programs suited to the rigorous national standards are encouraged to apply for the national awards (<https://nasadad.org/exemplary-awards/>).

Past Washington State Prevention Awardees 2019 - 2023

Note: Previous Prevention Awards of Excellence winners may be nominated again after four (4) years if they are able to demonstrate new efforts in prevention, a significant program expansion, enhancement, or improvement. Previous years' award recipients are listed at <https://www.theathenaforum.org/awards>.

Nomination submissions

**Nominations must be submitted by
Wednesday, July 17, 2024
Late submissions will not be accepted.**

If you have any questions, please contact:
Martha Williams, Prevention System Manager, by telephone at 360-622-1289 or
by email at martha.williams@hca.wa.gov