



**School of Education and Human Development (SEHD)**

**Early Career Research Excellence Award**

*(Last Revised: March 2024)*

**Purpose of award:**

This award recognizes SEHD faculty members who are in the early stages of their career (no later than 10 years after receipt of the doctoral degree), and who have made significant contributions to research in their field. The award is designed to acknowledge a body of research rather than a single study.

**Awards:**

- **Two** awards will be granted each year.
- Each recipient will receive \$2,000 in professional development funds and a certificate.
- The recipients will be recognized at the fall SEHD Convocation.

**Nominations:**

- Nominations will be solicited from SEHD faculty by the Office of Faculty Affairs.

**Preparation and submission of nominations: (self-nominations are not accepted)**

- Nomination packets should include:
  - A recent curriculum vita
  - A nomination letter providing concrete information that outlines the reasons the nominee is particularly qualified for this award (LIMIT: 2 pages).
  - Cover letter: Statement from the nominee that provides an overview of their research and the work's relationship to the mission and priorities of the SEHD. The statement should address: (a) the quality of their work, (b) the scope of influence of the nominee's work nationally and internationally, and (c) the contribution of the work to the advancement of the discipline (LIMIT: 3 pages).
  - Two letters of support/endorsement: Letters of support provide reviewers with helpful insights about the contributions of the research accomplishments to the discipline. In addition, these letters should address the significance and impact of the nominee's accomplishments. The letters should come from individuals with expertise in the nominee's research areas (At least one of the letters must be

external; no letters from former advisors will be considered. As a matter of good professional practice, letters from co-authors should be avoided (Limit: 2 pages).

- One publication that is representative of the nominee's most significant research contribution (the nominee must be first author; publication within last five years).
- Completed packets should be submitted to the SEHD Office of Faculty Affairs; incomplete packages will not be considered.

**Eligibility:**

- All SEHD tenured/tenure-track faculty members are eligible.
- Previous recipients of this award are ineligible.
- Nominee must have a minimum of three academic years of employment at Texas A&M University before nomination.
- Faculty members who serve as deans or in other administrative positions at the college or university level are not eligible.

**Criteria for Evaluation:**

The criteria for evaluation consider the quality and significance of the nominee's research; focusing particularly on their sustained research.

- The research direction should be indicative of innovation which has the potential to encourage further research, either by the faculty member or others in the field.
- The faculty member should have a history of publications and a record indicative of high standing in their field.

**Research Award Committee**

- The research award committee will evaluate and select winners. This committee is appointed by the Associate Dean for Faculty.
- During the review, the committee may request supporting materials from nominees or individuals to further support the nominations.

### Timetable for SEHD Early Career Research Excellence Award

March	Call for Nominations released
April 15	Award nominations Submitted to the Office of Faculty Affairs
May	Award packages checked by Office of Faculty Affairs and passed to research award committee for review
By July	Research award committee notifies Office of Faculty Affairs of their selection of the award  Office of Faculty Affairs notifies award recipient and their department head, as well as SEHD MarComm
August	The recipients will be recognized at the fall SEHD Convocation