

Society for Occupational Health Psychology (SOHP) Awards Framework and Governance: Policies, Categories, and Selection Criteria

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Awards managed by the SOHP Awards Committee

General Description

Eligibility for SOHP Awards

Candidates need to be an active SOHP member.

- By requiring membership for award candidates, we ensure the continued support of our scientific community and the sustainability of these recognition programs.
- It is worth noting that our membership dues have remained unchanged for many years; the membership dues have been the primary source of funding for SOHP initiatives and the advancement of our scientific community.
- That said, to ensure our awards remain accessible, we offer discounted rates for retired members and students.

Awards Cycle: Every year (Except for Distinguished Contribution to OHP Award , which is presented every two years)

Timeline: Nomination due February 15, decision made by March 31, will be announced and awarded during *Work, Stress and Health (WSH) Conference*, or *Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) Annual Conference* on years when *WSH Conference* is not held. This timeline may be subject to change depending on conference schedules and organizational considerations.

External awards review committee (2-3 persons) will be recruited by the SOHP award committee. For Distinguished Contribution to OHP Award, external award review committee (2-3 persons) will be recruited by the SOHP president and president-elect.

Early Career Achievement Award

- Description: Honors exceptional early contributions by emerging OHP researchers or practitioners.
 - Award Details: Plaque and SOHP website recognition
- Award Criteria
 - Eligibility: Within 10 years of the terminal degree or equivalent professional credential (with consideration for documented career interruptions)
 - Early Productivity: A strong early record of research or practice contributions (e.g., peer-reviewed publications, funded projects, validated tools, or implemented interventions).
 - Innovation: Evidence of novel contributions to OHP theory, methods, or applications (e.g., new analytic approaches, intervention models, or interdisciplinary integrations).
 - Demonstrated Impact: Clear connection between the nominee's work and improvements in worker health, safety, or organizational well-being.
 - Leadership Potential: Indicators of an emerging leadership trajectory (e.g., independent funding, invited presentations, leadership roles, or international collaboration).
- Application Process
 - Submit the following materials through the online SOHP award application system: <https://forms.gle/SDRtz7JyJ3gin5qw5>
 - Nomination letter or letter of support
 - ♣ Nomination letter (when someone other than the nominee submits the nomination): At least two pages in length, describing the impact of the nominee's contributions to the science and/or practice of OHP
 - ♣ Letter of support (for self-nominations): From an objective source, at least two pages in length, describing the impact of the nominee's contributions to the science and/or practice of OHP
 - Up-to-date curriculum vitae of the nominee
 - Representative publications (no more than five)

SOHP Fellow Recognition

- Description: Recognizes members who have demonstrated sustained excellence and leadership in advancing the science, practice, and service of OHP.
 - Award Details: Plaque and SOHP website recognition
- Award Criteria
 - Sustained Contributions: At least 10 years of meaningful contributions to OHP through research, practice, education, or policy 10 years post-Ph.D. or other professional certifications/degree.
 - Documented Impact: Evidence that the nominee's work has influenced OHP scholarship, practice, or worker outcomes (e.g., influential publications, adopted interventions, policy relevance).
 - Professional Leadership: Leadership within the field (e.g., editorial roles, grant leadership, program development, or organizational leadership).
 - Service to SOHP: Meaningful and ongoing contributions to SOHP activities (e.g., committees, conferences, mentorship).
 - Professional Standing: Peer recognition for ethical conduct, scientific rigor, and commitment to worker well-being.
- Application Process
 - Submit the following materials through the online SOHP award application system: <https://forms.gle/SDRtz7JyJ3gin5qw5>
 - Nomination letter or letter of support
 - ♣ Nomination letter (when someone other than the nominee submits the nomination): At least two pages in length, describing the nominee's sustained excellence, leadership, and service and the impact of their contributions to the science, practice, and mission of OHP.
 - ♣ Letter of support (for self-nominations): From an objective source, at least two pages in length, describing the nominee's sustained excellence, leadership, and service and the impact of their contributions to the science, practice, and mission of OHP.
 - Up-to-date curriculum vitae of the nominee
 - Summary of relevant achievements
 - ♣ A narrative summary (no more than two pages) highlighting the nominee's contributions, leadership, and service aligned with the SOHP Fellow recognition criteria.

SOHP Service Award

- Description: Recognizes sustained and meaningful service to the Society of Occupational Health Psychology.
 - Award Details: Plaque and SOHP website recognition
- Award Criteria
 - Sustained Service: A minimum of 5 years of consistent service to SOHP (e.g., committee membership, elected leadership, conference planning, or task forces).
 - Meaningful Contributions: Service that resulted in tangible benefits to the Society (e.g., new initiatives, improved governance processes, expanded member engagement).
 - Leadership & Initiative: Demonstrated initiative in advancing SOHP's mission, inclusivity, or international presence.
 - Reliability & Professionalism: Consistent fulfillment of service responsibilities with evidence of effectiveness and collaboration.
 - Alignment with Mission: Service activities that directly support SOHP's goals of promoting worker health, safety, and well-being.
- Application Process
 - Submit the following materials through the online SOHP award application system: <https://forms.gle/SDRtz7JyJ3gin5qw5>
 - Nomination letter or letter of support
 - ♣ Nomination letter (when someone other than the nominee submits the nomination): At least two pages in length, describing the nominee's sustained and meaningful service to SOHP and the impact of these contributions on the Society.
 - ♣ Letter of support (for self-nominations): From an objective source, at least two pages in length, describing the nominee's sustained and meaningful service to SOHP and the impact of these contributions on the Society.
 - Up-to-date curriculum vitae of the nominee
 - Summary of service contributions
 - ♣ A narrative summary (no more than two pages) describing the scope, duration, and impact of the nominee's service to the Society of Occupational Health Psychology.

Lifetime Career Achievement Award

- Description: Honors sustained, distinguished contributions that have significantly advanced OHP.
 - Award Details: Plaque and SOHP website recognition
- Award Criteria
 - Career-Long Impact: At least 20 years of influential contributions to OHP through research, practice, policy, or large-scale interventions (e.g., highly cited publications, widely adopted intervention models, or regulatory influence).
 - Advancement of the Field: Clear evidence that the nominee's work has shaped OHP theory, methods, or practice (e.g., development of widely used frameworks, measures, or evidence-based guidelines).
 - Leadership & Mentorship: Demonstrated leadership in training and mentoring students or professionals, with evidence of mentees' continued contributions to OHP (e.g., faculty placements, practitioner leadership roles).
 - Professional Recognition: National or international recognition for OHP contributions (e.g., major grants, invited keynote addresses, editorial leadership, or prestigious awards).
 - Sustained Professional Engagement: Ongoing commitment to improving worker health, safety, and well-being across multiple career stages.
- Application Process
 - Submit the following materials through the online SOHP award application system: <https://forms.gle/SDRtz7JyJ3gin5qw5>
 - Nomination letter or letter of support
 - ♣ Nomination letter (when someone other than the nominee submits the nomination): At least two pages in length, describing the cumulative impact of the nominee's sustained and distinguished career and their contributions to OHP research, practice, policy, leadership, and mentorship.
 - ♣ Letter of support (for self-nominations): From an objective source, at least two pages in length, describing the cumulative impact of the nominee's sustained and distinguished career and their contributions to OHP research, practice, policy, leadership, and mentorship.
 - Up-to-date curriculum vitae of the nominee
 - Summary of career impact
 - ♣ A narrative summary (no more than two pages) highlighting the nominee's career-long influence on the advancement of Occupational Health Psychology.

Distinguished Contribution to OHP Award

- Description: Honors foundational contributors critical to the inception and establishment of OHP.
 - This award is presented every two years, in sync with the *WSH conference* cycle.
 - External award review committee (2-3 persons) will be recruited by the SOHP president and president-elect.
 - Award Details: Plaque and SOHP website recognition
- Award Criteria
 - Foundational Contributions: Direct involvement in the early development of OHP (e.g., founding programs, journals, conferences, training models, or defining core constructs).
 - Institutionalization of the Field: Evidence that the nominee's efforts helped establish OHP as a distinct and enduring scientific and applied discipline.
 - Enduring Influence: Long-term impact on OHP research agendas, professional training, or practice standards.
 - Historical Significance: Compelling documentation that the field's current structure or identity would be substantially different without the nominee's contributions.
 - Peer Acknowledgment: Recognition by senior scholars or practitioners as a key architect of the field.
- Application Process
 - Submit the following materials through the online SOHP award application system: <https://forms.gle/SDRtz7JyJ3gin5qw5>
 - Nomination letter or letter of support
 - ♣ Nomination letter (when someone other than the nominee submits the nomination): At least two pages in length, describing the nominee's foundational role in the creation and institutionalization of Occupational Health Psychology and the enduring historical significance of these contributions.
 - ♣ Letter of support (for self-nominations): From an objective source, at least two pages in length, describing the nominee's foundational role in the creation and institutionalization of Occupational Health Psychology and the enduring historical significance of these contributions.
 - Up-to-date curriculum vitae of the nominee
 - Summary of foundational contributions
 - ♣ A narrative summary (no more than two pages) describing how the nominee's work contributed to the establishment and long-term development of OHP as a field.

Distinctions Among SOHP Senior Award Categories

SOHP's senior awards and recognitions honor distinct forms of contribution to the field and the Society. Together, these honors reflect complementary forms of senior contribution—foundational, cumulative, exemplary, and service-oriented—while maintaining clear distinctions in purpose and scope:

- **The SOHP Fellow** recognition acknowledges sustained professional excellence, leadership, and service among established members who continue to actively advance the science, practice, and mission of OHP.
- **The OHP Service Award** specifically recognizes sustained, meaningful service to the Society of Occupational Health Psychology itself, honoring contributions that strengthen SOHP's governance, initiatives, and member community.
- **The Lifetime Career Achievement Award** honors the cumulative impact of a sustained and distinguished career, recognizing excellence and influence across decades of contributions to OHP research, practice, policy, leadership, and mentorship.
- **The Distinguished Contribution to OHP Award** recognizes individuals whose foundational efforts were critical to the creation and institutionalization of Occupational Health Psychology as a field and whose work has had enduring historical significance.

Equity, Diversity, and Fairness

The SOHP Awards Committee approaches evaluation with a commitment to equity, transparency, and consistency. By acknowledging systemic barriers and valuing diverse forms of contribution, we aim to ensure that assessment processes are fair, reflective, and aligned with the principles of academic integrity and that all nominees are treated with respect.

The SOHP Awards Committee values contributions associated with nontraditional career paths, applied scholarship, and global contributions as essential forms of academic impact. Excellence is demonstrated not only through conventional metrics, but also through work that advances practice, engages communities, and contributes meaningfully across cultural and international contexts. We encourage individuals making nominations to articulate the impact of their work to assist the committee and reviewers in evaluating a range of career trajectories, products, and outcomes.

Any questions or comments regarding the awards can be directed to the award committee, Kristin Horan ("khoran1@kennesaw.edu") OR Jin Lee ("jinlee@ksu.edu").

Awards managed outside the SOHP Awards Committee

(SOHP membership is NOT required to be eligible for the following awards.)

Best Occupational Health Science Article Award – Handled by OHS Editor / Award Cycle: Every 2 years (synced with the *WSH conference* cycle)

Best JOHP Article Award – Handled by JOHP Editor / Award Cycle: Every year

Best Practices Intervention Evaluation Competition - Handled by the *Work, Stress, and Health (WSH) conference* Planning Committee; David Ballard has been the chair in the past 2+ cycles / Award Cycle: Every 2 years (synced with the conference cycle)

Best Student Research Competition – Handled by the *Work, Stress, and Health (WSH) conference* Sub-committee Chair (* Note. 2025 WSH Conference Chair: Carrie Bulger) / Award Cycle: Every 2 years (synced with the *WSH conference* cycle).

Student Travel Awards - Handled by the SOHP Education & Training committee, with their peer review process / Award Cycle: Every 2 years (synced with the *WSH conference* cycle).