



EJI Excellence in Medicine Guidelines for Award Nominations 2026

Overview

The mission of EJI Excellence in Medicine is to recognize and encourage excellence in medical care and healthcare for the citizens of New Jersey, including patient care, teaching and education, research, management, leadership and civic engagement. The Awards began in 1939 and were enhanced and expanded in 2003. Subsequently, the scholarship program was added, providing scholarships to students from New Jersey medical schools, dental schools, pharmacy schools and physician assistant schools every year.

The *EJI Excellence in Medicine Awards*™ are awarded annually to honor those extraordinary physicians and leaders whose dedication to medical care, education, research and public service has significantly impacted the delivery of healthcare in New Jersey and around the nation.

Awards

Each of the Awards recognizes “excellence in medicine” as manifested in the varied ways that may significantly impact the health and well-being of our citizens in New Jersey and nationally.

EJI Physician’s Award® – Presented to a New Jersey physician for dedication and extraordinary service to the profession and to the citizens of the state.

Peter W. Rodino, Jr. Citizen’s Award® – Presented to a citizen or group of citizens of New Jersey who merits recognition for distinguished service in advancing and promoting the health and well-being of the people of our state.

Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award – Presented to an individual who has personified, led and provided the vision for an organization, and to the organization served, for extraordinary commitment to improving the health and welfare of the citizens of New Jersey.

Outstanding Medical Educator Award – Presented to a medical educator who has made an outstanding contribution to medical education in New Jersey.

Outstanding Healthcare Executive Award – Presented to an executive in a healthcare-related organization or field who has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the enhancement of patient care and medical practice in New Jersey.

Outstanding Scientist Award – Presented to an individual or individuals who have made exceptional contributions leading to advances in healthcare.



Nomination Process

Nominations may be submitted by any individual or group. No one may submit more than one nomination for any award, in any year. The nomination should be uploaded to the online application found at EJIAwards.org and should include all the following materials for the nominee to be considered for an award. Incomplete nomination submissions may be disqualified.

1. The nomination letter is the most important element of the nomination package. It should make clear that the nominee is outstanding and exceptional, and how and why this is so. Specific examples should be provided. Occasionally, a single example may be so typical and characteristic of the nominee's career that it is illuminating. The letter may discuss the nominee's accomplishments as relevant to the award for which the nomination is made but should not simply summarize these accomplishments. (The letter should not be longer than two pages.)
2. A short bio highlighting the nominee's professional background and achievements, not to exceed 250 words.
3. The nominee's résumé or CV.
4. Written confirmation that the nominator has notified the candidate of his or her nomination for an award; and that if selected, the candidate has agreed to accept the award, attend an interview/videotaping/photo session on February 19, 2026 (between 8am-1pm) at New Jersey Health Foundation 155 Village Blvd., Suite 130 Princeton, NJ, and attend the Awards Gala on May 6, 2026 at the Park Chateau Estate and Gardens 678 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ .
5. Nominations for the Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award should also contain information about the organization being nominated, including outcomes or benchmark data that demonstrates the organization's impact on the community.

The Awards Committee relies on each candidate's nominator to provide the information necessary to make an informed evaluation of that candidate. The nominator should clearly identify the areas of excellence and unique contributions that demonstrate the candidate's qualifications.

Eligibility

Nominees should be residents of New Jersey, and/or the professional activities for which they are nominated should have been performed in New Jersey; and should meet the criteria for the Award for which they are nominated (as described above).

Those who have been honored by EJI Excellence in Medicine in the past with any Award, are not eligible to receive any EJI Award subsequently, whether in the same category, or any other category, or any category that may be created in the future.

We do not make posthumous awards. Nominees must be living at the time they are nominated, and at the time of consideration and selection by the Awards Committee.



Renominations

We strongly encourage nominators whose nominees are not selected to resubmit nominations in any subsequent year, provided that a new and updated nomination package is submitted.

Submission of Nominations

All nomination information should be uploaded to our online application, which can be found at EJIAwards.org.

Nomination letters should be addressed to Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Awards Committee, and uploaded with all nominating information to the online system.

Nominations will be accepted through **August 22, 2025**.

Selection Criteria

The Awards Committee is comprised of an independent group of physicians and healthcare leaders who review each nomination thoroughly. The Awards Committee will select honorees and make a recommendation to the EJI Excellence in Medicine Advisory Board. Typically, one nominee will be recommended for each category. However, if there is a particularly strong field in a category, two awardees may be selected at the Awards Committee's discretion. The Advisory Board will have the final approval on the slate of honorees.

The Awards Committee has broad discretion. The Committee may re-assign a nominee to an Award category other than the one recommended by the nominator or make other adjustments as appropriate.

All nominees and all nominators will be notified of the final selections.

The award recipients will be recognized May 6, 2026, at a formal Awards Gala at the Park Chateau Estate and Gardens 678 Cranbury Rd, East Brunswick, NJ. The selected honoree for each award must agree to be present at that time, and additionally, provide active support for the scholarship program. There will also be an interview/videotaping/photo session on February 19, 2026 (between 8am-1pm) at New Jersey Health Foundation 155 Village Blvd., Suite 130 Princeton, NJ

The videotaped interview and photo session are an integral part of the tradition of the Awards ceremony, and essential to it. Each Award recipient's interview will be shown to the audience, while the recipient is on-stage receiving the Award. The taping and photos will take place on February 19, 2026 (between 8am-1pm) at New Jersey Health Foundation 155 Village Blvd., Suite 130 Princeton, NJ and no separate arrangements will be made for "remote" filming, or for alternative dates and/or locations. Nominees who cannot commit to this important part of our process, will not be considered. Nominees who do not attend the session, will not receive their Awards.



The nominator should also include a signed statement by the nominee, agreeing, if selected, to attend the interview and videotaping session on February 19, 2026 (between 8am-1pm) at New Jersey Health Foundation 155 Village Blvd., Suite 130 Princeton, NJ and the Awards Dinner on May 6, 2026, at 678 Cranbury Rd, East Brunswick, NJ. The Event Participating Agreement is provided below and may also be downloaded on our website.

Each Award recipient will be given two tickets. It is hoped that all will encourage their families, friends, and colleagues, to attend. Their attendance honors your Award and supports our scholarship program.

Proceeds from the Awards Gala will be dedicated to the EJI Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Fund. EJI Excellence in Medicine is committed to retaining medical talent in New Jersey.

The EJI Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Fund brings the mission of the event full circle, in that by recognizing the accomplishments of our award recipients, we are also inspiring our students to strive to make their own unique contributions. And we have found that the students, in turn, inspire us.

For more information on the nomination process, the history of the *EJI Excellence in Medicine Awards*®, the EJI Excellence in Medicine Scholarship Fund or a list of past recipients, log on to EJIAwards.org.



EJI 2026 Event Participation Agreement

I agree, if selected as an EJI honoree, to attend the interview/videotaping/photo session on February 19, 2026 (between 8am-1pm) at New Jersey Health Foundation 155 Village Blvd., Suite 130 Princeton, NJ.

I also agree, if selected as an EJI honoree, to attend the EJI Awards Gala on May 6, 2026 (4:30pm arrival), at the Park Chateau Estate and Gardens 678 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ.

Print_____

Sign_____

EJI 2026 Nominated Honoree