



Dental Hygiene Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry

TO: Directors of School of Dental Hygiene with Baccalaureate Programs
FROM: Dr. Sena Narendran, Student Awards Chair
DATE: October 12, 2021
RE: AAPHD Dental Hygiene Student Merit Award Program

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) cordially invites your School/Program to participate in the annual *Dental Hygiene Student Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement in Community Dentistry*. We hope you will choose to nominate project(s) for this competition. Award recipients will be acknowledged during AAPHD's Annual Business meeting, which will be held April 10, 2022.

Each School/Program of Dental Hygiene with **Baccalaureate Degree Programs** may submit **a maximum** of two (2) separate nominations for this award. The nominees(s) must have completed their project prior to graduation. Each project should be an oral health program carried out in a community by the student(s).

For project components and submission requirements, please [click here](#). Abstracts to be considered for the AAPHD Student Merit Award program should not be submitted a second time for the General Poster Session.

If there are any questions concerning this announcement, please contact Dr. Sena Narendran by electronic mail: snx100@case.edu

Dates to note:

- **October 12, 2021 – Site opens for submission Student Merit Awards**
- **January 10, 2022 – Deadline** for submission of nominees and supportive material. **Submission site closes at 11:45 pm EASTERN.**
- **February, 2022 – Notifications emailed to submitters**

The National Oral Health Conference® will be held April 11-13, 2022 in Ft. Worth, TX

AAPHD's Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 10, 2022

Project Components and Submission Requirements for the Dental Hygiene Student Merit Award

I. General Information

- All material must be submitted electronically by visiting the [NOHC Abstract Submission Site](#). *No manual submissions will be accepted.* Nominations will not be considered after the submission deadline.
- Be sure to complete all the [submission tasks](#) – you may save your submission and return to the form as needed until the deadline. No changes can be made after the deadline date.
- A submission is not considered complete if you do not complete all tasks. All completed tasks will have a green checkmark by each of them. Once the submission is complete, the submitter will receive an immediate e-mail acknowledgement. *Only completed submissions will be reviewed for the competition.*
- When submitting the abstract, it is the responsibility of the submitter to verify the correct spelling and email addresses for all authors. NOHC is not responsible if authors do not receive email communications because of any oversights by the submitter.
- NOHC is not responsible for incorrect entries in the program material because of any wrong information provided by submitter.
- The individual who is submitting the abstract is responsible for communicating with all co-authors listed on the abstract. Therefore, it is highly recommended that this individual is also the “presenting author”.
- **Proposals must be submitted by 11:45 pm EST, Monday, January 10, 2022. No exceptions.** Notification of selection will be made in **early February**. Any questions related to the submission process may be directed to the NOHC office at abstracts@nationalhealthconference.com.

II. Components for Online Submissions

Each project should be an oral health program/research carried out in a community by the student(s). For the submissions to be considered complete following tasks must be addressed online:

1. **Author(s).** One presenting author must be identified.
2. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure.** Each author listed on the abstract must complete a conflict of interest disclosure.
3. **Abstract Requirements:**
 - a. **Title.** *Limit 100 characters/30 words.* Titles should be entered in title case format, i.e. the first letter of each word is capitalized unless it is an article or preposition. DO NOT USE all capital letters in the title.
 - b. **Body of Abstract.** *Word limit: 250 words, exclusive of the title and the source of funding.* The abstract must be structured to include subheadings “Objective”, “Methods”, “Results”, and “Conclusions” in the body, which are included in the 250-word limit.
 - c. The words: “Objectives”, “Methods”, “Results”, and “Conclusions” must be included in the body of the abstract and are included in the 250-word limit.
 - d. **Source of Funding.** All sources of funding and support must be included.
 - e. **Affiliations.** Please list the universities or other institutions with which the authors are affiliated.
 - f. **Keywords.** Include three (3) to ten (10) keywords.

4. Supporting Documents. Each submission is required to upload the following:

- a. **Report.** *Limit 20 pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, and minimum font size 12.* The report should include the following sections:
 - Background information
 - Project/program’s objectives and the methods/procedures
 - Summary of results
 - Discussion of the findings including the positive impact on the community’s oral health
 - Conclusions
 - Photographs, figures/tables, forms/questionnaires or illustrated diagrams should be included where appropriate.
- b. **Cover Page.** A cover page that includes the following contact information for each student author/ nominee: full name, postal address, telephone number and e-mail.
- c. **Letter of Nomination.** A letter from the nominating faculty person outlining student(s)’ role in the project as well as each student’s class level in the dental hygiene school/program.
- d. **Human Subjects.** If the project involved human subject research, a copy of the approval letter from the Institutional Review Board **must** be included.

5. E-mail confirmation of the submission.

III. Evaluation

Multiple reviewers will evaluate each project according to the following six criteria:

- Originality and design of the project
- Description of results and conclusions
- Quality of the results (data) from the project
- Level of student responsibility and leadership
- Community value of the project
- Demonstrated mastery of the subject

IV. Awards

First, second, and third place award winners are selected from submitted projects which have met the reviewers’ guidelines. These winners are invited to attend the 2022 National Oral Health Conference®, a joint meeting of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD), where they will receive the award: an appropriate plaque, a one-year membership to the American Association of Public Health Dentistry; electronic access to the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry (JPHD)* for one-year; and the opportunity to present their projects as a part of the NOHC General Poster Session on Monday, April 11, 2022.

Please note: In order to receive the cash award, either the primary nominee or at least one of the co-nominees is required to attend the 2022 National Oral Health Conference® and present their poster. **Only one complimentary registration per project will be awarded.**

FIRST PLACE AWARD. The First Place Award winner will receive a cash award of \$500 for presenting at the 2022 National Oral Health Conference®.

SECOND PLACE AWARD. The Second Place Award winner will receive a cash award of \$200 for presenting at the 2022 National Oral Health Conference®.

THIRD PLACE AWARD. The Third Place Award winner will receive a cash award of \$100 for presenting at the 2022 National Oral Health Conference®.

*If no member of the project team is able to attend the 2022 NOHC, the student authors will only receive the plaque, AAPHD membership and electronic access to the JPHD. The first student author will receive the aforementioned items unless otherwise noted. **Cash awards are only awarded to those projects presented at the National Oral Health Conference®.***

HONORABLE MENTION. Authors of the projects receiving an honorable mention are invited to attend the 2022 National Oral Health Conference® where they will receive the award: a certificate, a complimentary membership to the American Association of Public Health Dentistry; electronic access to the *Journal of Public Health Dentistry (JPHD)* for one-year; and the opportunity to present their projects as a part of the General Poster Session on Monday, April 11, 2022. If no member of the project team is able to attend the 2022 NOHC, the first student author will receive the aforementioned items unless otherwise noted.

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