

**Loyola Psychology Department**  
**Distinguished Student of Psychology Award**

revised 2/28/12

Guidelines:

1. Beginning with the 1985-86 academic year, the Department of Psychology will present an annual award to the undergraduate senior Psychology major who has most distinguished himself or herself while at Loyola University.

2. Criteria for selection are:

a. **Academic Performance.** Quality of academic scholarship will be one of several factors considered in selection for this award. The minimum grade point averages for consideration are 3.00 on both Loyola and Psychology GPA's. However, academic excellence by itself will not merit an award.

b. **Departmental Involvement.** The outstanding senior should be someone who has been visible in the Department and has an impact on the quality with which the Department performs its functions. This visibility could be attained through being a work/study student, an officer in Psi Chi or Psychology Club, representing students at Departmental meetings, involvement in student recruiting, assisting with the instruction provided in courses or labs, or other forms of work outside of regular class assignments.

c. **Professional Activities.** The outstanding graduating senior should have both an interest in, and an aptitude for, the profession of psychology. Evidence of these qualities might be demonstrated by being involved in research, presenting a paper or organizing a student session at a convention, submitting a psychology-related paper for publication, participating in a practicum or a psychological service activity which is not related to a course, being a student member of a professional psychology organization, attending a psychology convention, or similar activities.

Students may be nominated by faculty, another student, or may self-nominate. It is the responsibility of the nominator to supply the department with a current resume of the student nominee.

3. Selection for this award will be by faculty vote. Approximately mid-way through the Spring semester, the Chairperson of the Psychology Department will distribute to all full-time faculty members a list of academically eligible graduating seniors (including those who have graduated in December and those who have applied for August graduation). Each full-time faculty member may then nominate as many of these students as he/she feels are deserving of this award. Nominees will then be discussed by the faculty at a Departmental meeting. Each faculty member will then be allowed to vote for one student that he/she feels is most deserving of this award. This award requires a formal vote of full-time faculty; a quorum consists of three-fourths of those holding the franchise (Psychology Protocol, 1987 rev., p.4). Only if a tie vote cannot be broken by further discussion will duplicate awards be given.

4. This award will normally be presented annually at the Arts & Sciences Honors Convocation. Under unusual circumstances, there could be multiple recipients of this award, or the faculty could choose not to make this award for that year.

5. Recipients of this award will receive a plaque and will also have their names engraved on a permanent plaque in the Psychology Department.