

Department of Psychological Sciences  
Loyola University  
**OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AWARD IN PSYCHOLOGY**

Award Guidelines:

1. The purpose of this award is to recognize excellence in undergraduate student research. It is assumed that research of this quality would be suitable for presentation at a regional psychology meeting or as an undergraduate research thesis, although neither of these are requirements for consideration. While faculty supervision is required, and faculty input assumed, the research done and the manuscript submitted must have been planned, executed, and written by the submitting undergraduate student. The research done need not have been done at Loyola University New Orleans, but the name of the submitting student must have appeared on the protocol submitted to the appropriate institutional review board(s).
2. Selection of the award recipient will be based on a review of a completed research paper, which will be judged by department faculty and, when possible, by reviewers outside of the department. These judges will be asked to assign a rank to each research paper and then to indicate if they consider the research appropriate for this award. Papers will be judged blindly (without the judges having knowledge of authorship). Final decisions are the responsibility of faculty members in the Department of Psychological Sciences.
3. The research paper will be expected to comply with the guidelines of the APA Publication Manual (6th edition). Students are cautioned that deviations from this format might adversely effect selection.
4. The annual deadline for submission of a paper for consideration usually will be between the end of March and first two weeks in April, depending upon the timing of the Easter break. Three copies of the paper are required, and should be submitted without information indicating who the author is, as masked reviews will be conducted to the extent possible. Papers should be submitted to the instructor of the Senior Thesis course, who will normally be responsible for coordinating the competition.
5. In the event that more than one paper is submitted by a student, each will be judged separately. Having previously received the award does not exclude a student from receiving the award a second time for a different study. However, the same research project can be submitted only once for the award competition.
6. The sole basis for judging the research will be the paper submitted. Number of prior publications, acceptance of the paper for publication or presentation at a meeting, and similar factors will not be taken into account. Likewise, academic standing and scholarship factors such as grade point averages will not be considered. Classification in college will not be considered; there is no requirement that the student be a graduating senior. Students who have graduated in December are eligible to submit a project during the academic year of their graduation.
7. All papers considered for this award must comply with ethical guidelines, including having faculty sponsorship/supervision of the research. Acknowledgment of the input of others should be noted in an Author Note.
8. Although it is assumed that this is an award to be presented at the annual College of Humanities and Natural Sciences Honors Convocation in the spring, the award is made at the discretion of the Department of Psychological Sciences. There is no requirement that an award be presented each year; in unusual circumstances more than one award may be presented in the same year.

**The deadline in the spring of 2012 is set for 3 pm on Wednesday, March 28, the first Wednesday before Easter break.**