

Department of Psychological Sciences
Student Award Descriptions
Revised and Approved 02-05-2019

Awards requiring nomination

For the following awards, 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.

Outstanding Service to the University Award

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 (GPA) for consideration are 3.00 on both Loyola and Psychology GPAs. However, academic excellence by itself will not merit an award.
- b. Departmental, College, and/or University Involvement. The outstanding senior should be someone who has been visible in the Department, College, and/or University 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 of Psi Chi or Psychology Club, representing students at Departmental or other University- or College-related meetings, involvement in student recruiting, or other forms of work outside of regular class assignments.

Professional and Academic Achievement Award

Criteria for selection are:

- a. The recipient of the award must be a declared Psychological Sciences major and have senior standing.
- b. Academic Performance. Quality of academic scholarship will be one of several factors considered in selection for this award. The minimum grade point average for consideration is 3.40 or better for all Psychology courses at the end of the fall semester of the senior year. A student's score on the psychology comprehensive exam may be taken into consideration. However, academic excellence by itself will not merit the award.
- 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 research or organizing a student session at a professional convention, submitting a psychology-related paper for publication, applying for a research grant, assisting with the instruction provided in courses or labs, participating in a practicum, an internship, or a psychological service activity either related to or not related to a course, being a student member of a professional psychology organization, attending psychology conventions, or similar activities.

Gerald S. Clack Community Engagement Award

Eligibility:

This distinction for a Psychological sciences major shall be in honor of the career-long commitment to community engagement manifested by the late Dr. Gerald S. Clack, Professor of Psychology, Loyola University of New Orleans.

Any Psychological Sciences major is eligible to be nominated for this award, including majors who graduated in December of that academic year. The principal criterion for this award is that of demonstrated quality and quantity of professional service to the community provided by a Psychological Sciences major relative to Department of Psychological Sciences' functions and/or settings external to the department and University, including service provided through student organizations or University divisions, such as LUCAP, Campus Ministry, or Community-Engaged Learning, Teaching, and Scholarship (service learning).

Determination of Recipient for Nominated Awards

In the Spring semester of each academic year, the Chair of the Psychological Sciences Department shall invite nominations from the Psychology faculty and Psychology students, in accordance with the eligibility and criterion statements above. Once nominations are completed, deliberation and voting will take place in the context of a regularly scheduled faculty meeting, or specially called meeting. These awards require a formal vote of full-time faculty; a quorum consists of three-fourths of those holding the franchise. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be declared the recipient of the award for that academic year. If circumstances warrant, a recipient need not be named. Furthermore, the department may identify more than one recipient of this award for any given academic year if such is deemed to be appropriate.

Awards not requiring nomination

The following awards do not require nomination, although may require submission of materials.

Outstanding Research Award in Psychology

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 conducted research and the manuscript submitted must have been planned, executed, and written by the submitting undergraduate student. The conducted research 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).

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.

The research paper will be expected to comply with the guidelines of the most current *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Students are cautioned that deviations from this format might adversely affect selection. 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.

The paper 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. 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.

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.

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.

Dr. Paddy Ann Doll Psychology Senior Academic Achievement Award

Guidelines:

The Department of Psychological Sciences shall present annually, the Dr. Paddy Ann Doll Psychology Senior Academic Achievement Award. This distinction for a Psychology senior shall be in honor of the career-long commitment to academic and professional excellence manifested by the late Dr. Paddy Ann Doll, Professor of Psychology, Loyola University of New Orleans.

Criteria for Eligibility:

A potential recipient of this award must be a senior Psychological Sciences major who meets the following criteria:

- a. A documented actual/anticipated graduation date of December, May, or August of the academic year designated for the award.
- b. For December graduates, a minimum of 60 semester hours overall completed at Loyola University by the end of the Fall semester of the academic year designated for the award; for May or August graduates, a minimum of 45 semester hours overall completed at Loyola University by the end of the Fall semester, with an anticipated minimum total of 60 semester hours in this category by graduation.
- c. For December graduates, a minimum of 21 semester hours in Psychology completed at Loyola University by the end of the Fall semester of the academic year designated for the award; for May or August graduates, a minimum of 18 semester hours in Psychology completed at Loyola University by the end of the Fall semester, with an anticipated minimum total of 21 semester hours in this category by graduation.

Criteria for Selection:

The recipient of this annual award shall be that eligible Psychology senior who has earned the highest Loyola GPA by February 1st of the designated academic year. This determination is to be made by the Chairperson of the Department of Psychological Sciences with corroboration from Student Records. Identification of the award recipient shall be announced immediately to the Psychology faculty by the Chairperson once the corroboration is received.