



The National Association of Extension Program and Staff Development Professionals is accepting nominations for the 2018 Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Award for Creative Excellence.

Description

Often, the most creative and innovative ideas - the ones that advance the science and art of Cooperative Extension - come not from committees, but rather from individuals or small teams who see something at first that the rest of us don't. Through their insight, passion and persistence, their "wild" ideas gain acceptance, enabling all of us to excel. This award recognizes those individuals or small teams and their unique contributions - whether they are early in their Extension careers, mid-career, or late career. For the purposes of this award, innovation is an approach to emerging issues or addressing existing issues in exceptionally creative or novel ways that get results, and that others want to emulate.

Eligibility

Candidates for the award must have an Extension appointment and be a member in good standing of one or more of the seven JCEP organizations, including NAEPSDP. Individuals may be nominated through one JCEP organization per year, even if the nominee is a member of two or more. Self-nominations are welcome.

Judging

Each Association may select one "nominee" – an individual or small team (2-5 members) to move forward to the JCEP awards committee for consideration for the overall National JCEP award. Each Association's individual nominee or team will receive recognition and a \$250 stipend to be presented at their respective Association's National Meeting. Attendance encouraged at the national association meeting, but not mandatory to receive award. The association nominees (a total of seven if each association submits a nominee) will be judged by the JCEP Awards Committee to determine one overall national award recipient. The individual or team recipient of the overall National JCEP Award for Creative Excellence will receive recognition and a \$1,000 stipend to be presented at JCEP Leadership Conference. Attendance at the leadership conference is required to receive the award¹. Association nominees and the overall national winner are required to present their innovation and creative achievements either at their national association conference (JCEP Leadership Conference for the overall national winner), or will be provided an opportunity to present their innovative and creative achievements during a national webinar. All of the honoree's innovation and creative achievements will be highlighted on the JCEP web site and in JCEP communications.

Judging will be based on the following criteria (a total of 100 points distributed across five questions):

1. The nominee's efforts to address emerging or current issues in unique ways (15 points).
2. How the nominee uses new innovative methods to enhance or provide educational programs conducted on emerging issues in the state or region (25 points).
3. The nominee's ability to exhibit a pattern of innovative and creative efforts extending beyond a single program or effort (25 points)



4. The changes or impacts that occurred as a result of the nominees' innovative and creative efforts (20 points).
5. Ways the nominee has inspired and excited fellow Extension or outreach professionals to adopt similar innovative and creative approaches in their work (15 points)

The NAEPSDP winner will be notified prior to the NAEPSDP annual meeting (Dec. 11-13, 2018) and the national winner will be notified by JCEP prior to registration for the JCEP Leadership Conference in February 2019.

The application due date for members of NAEPSDP is August 31, 2018. Applications should be submitted via this link:

JCEP Creative Excellence

For questions or clarifications, please contact:

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¹ *This requirement may be waived by the JCEP Awards Committee due to extreme travel funding challenges or unalterable schedule conflicts.*

