

ADMINISTERED BY:
Center for Teaching Excellence

FUNDED BY:
Office of the Provost

2025-26 SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Monday, January 5, 2026

5pm

SUBMISSION VIA INFOREADY

*To access this opportunity, log-in to IUP's [InfoReady Review site](#), click on the competition title "**Faculty Recognition Awards 2025-26**" and click "**Apply**" on the right-hand side of the screen.*

NOTE: You will use your single sign-on (SSO) credentials to access the site.

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION:

Center for Teaching Excellence
Teaching-Excellence@iup.edu

Purpose

The heart of any strong university is its faculty. To recognize and support outstanding faculty members, including temporary faculty and teaching associates, the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) offers awards that recognize teaching excellence and commitment to our students. Awards are by **self-nomination** only. If you would like to nominate a faculty member please reach out to the Center for Teaching Excellence and we will notify the faculty member they have been nominated and support them in preparing their application. Descriptions of all award categories and application procedures are provided here. If you need additional information, please e-mail the Center for Teaching Excellence (teaching-excellence@iup.edu).

Faculty Recognition Award Categories

ACCESSIBILITY

This award recognizes faculty who make instruction accessible to all students using universally designed access. The course design ensures that all educational experiences, learning activities, and instructional technology provide for multiple means of engagement, responses, expression, and assessment.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Sponsored by the University College

The purpose of this award is to recognize faculty who have excelled in providing academic advising to undergraduate and/or graduate students. This award seeks to recognize academic advising for student success that enhance advising at IUP. A clear description of how advising is conducted and how student success is defined and supported must be provided. *Course syllabus is not required.*

MENTORING

Sponsored by the University College

The purpose of this award is to recognize faculty who have excelled in mentoring across a range of areas including creative activity, scholarship, research, career, or holistic mentoring to undergraduate and/or graduate students. This award seeks to recognize mentoring for student success that represents service beyond faculty professional responsibilities (i.e., make visible contributions that are happening outside of the classroom or traditional mentoring expectations). Please provide a description of how you define mentoring and a clear description of how student success/outcomes are defined and supported.

COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE

This award recognizes a collaborative team practice (intra- or multi-disciplinary) implemented in such a way that student learning is enhanced. Applications must clearly describe and support the efforts of each faculty member. Evidence of the collaborative nature of the project needs to be provided as well as the impact on student learning. (NOTE: Award funds are split among team members.)

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

This award recognizes outstanding course design that incorporates instructional technology. Exemplary applicants will demonstrate the application of online pedagogy, instructional design, and student outcomes. Screenshots of course modules or instructional tools should be provided.

CONTENT PEDAGOGY

This award recognizes course design which is especially effective in teaching content within a particular discipline. Evidence should support thoughtful pedagogical progression that maximizes student learning. Please provide specific examples of how course content is applied within the course.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

Sponsored by the Career and Professional Development Center (CPDC)

The Heiges-Lamberski Award recognizes excellence in experiential education or service learning in the design, development, delivery, evaluation, and/or advocacy of experiential education or service learning at IUP. *Course syllabus is not required if it is not applicable.*

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

Sponsored by the Office of Social Equity and Title IX

Applicants for this award will demonstrate course design and implementation strategies that respect students' differences and/or makes diversity central to the intellectual content of course. Evidence should be provided for a teaching and learning environment where students feel that their contributions and perspectives are equally valued and respected.

INNOVATION

This award recognizes the use of techniques, methods, materials, technologies, or tools outside traditional teaching practices for such purposes as increasing student engagement, enhancing student retention, demonstrating difficult concepts, or encouraging critical thinking. Applicants should provide the pedagogical rationale for the approaches employed, confirmation of the outcomes achieved, and clear evidence of the innovation aspect of the class.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE FOR TEMPORARY FACULTY

Sponsored by APSCUF

This award recognizes temporary faculty who demonstrate excellence in pedagogy, course design, implementation, and/or student-centeredness. The applicant should demonstrate pedagogical progression and efficacy in promoting meaningful learning. Applicants for this category should provide a teaching philosophy/statement.

TEACHING ASSOCIATES

Teaching associates provide valuable service to our university community. This award is intended to recognize exemplary classroom instruction by a TA. Applicants for this award must submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member that addresses their classroom instruction. Any student who is the instructor of record is eligible to apply for this award. Along with a letter of recommendation, please provide a teaching philosophy/statement.

PEDAGOGICAL RESEARCH

Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

This award recognizes research that increases knowledge about teaching and learning and demonstrates application to teaching practice. This includes descriptive, correlational, experimental, or causal-comparative research. The applicant should provide evidence to clearly support the relevance of the research to teaching practice. Please provide a specific research question and how it was assessed along with a clear description about how the research findings are/were applied to enhance teaching and learning broadly or specifically at IUP. *Course syllabus is not required if it is not applicable.*

COURSE-BASED UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCES (CURES)

Sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

This award recognizes faculty who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to integrating research (original knowledge-production activities) into undergraduate courses in any academic discipline and providing students with hands-on, inquiry-driven learning opportunities. Awardees are celebrated for their innovative approaches to course design, mentorship, and their ability to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and discovery within the classroom. Their work enhances the educational experience by empowering students to engage in real-world research, preparing them for future academic and professional success.

LIBERAL STUDIES/CRIMSON CORE TEACHING

Sponsored by Liberal Studies/Crimson Core

The purpose of this award is to recognize faculty who have provided exceptional instruction to undergraduate students in Liberal Studies/Crimson Core courses. This award recognizes teaching excellence to include not only content within a particular discipline, but also the broader context of general education and the future of the whole student. Evidence should support thoughtful pedagogical approaches (e.g., inclusive teaching, engaged learning) that not only optimize learning but also prepare students for academic, professional, and life success. Applicants for this category should provide a general education teaching philosophy/statement.

OER/AFFORDABLE LEARNING SOLUTIONS

Sponsored by the IUP Libraries

Open Educational Resources (OER) and affordable educational resources (zero or low cost to students such as use of library resources and reserves) ease the burden of textbook costs for students, improve student engagement and retention, and improve educational outcomes. This award recognizes excellence for faculty curators, creators, and adopters of Open Educational Resources (OER) or affordable educational resources. Applicants should provide details on the financial and pedagogical impact of their adoption of OER/affordable educational resources on students and teaching practice.

Award Eligibility

In order to recognize as many faculty members as possible, previous recipients of any Faculty Recognition Awards are ineligible to apply until three award years have elapsed since receipt of their award. Consequently, faculty members who received a recognition award in the **Spring of 2023** or later are not eligible to apply this year. **Preference is given to application materials/teaching from the last 2 years.**

Selection Process

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) Advisory Board will review the applications and select the award recipients. The CTE Director will announce the names of the award winners, who will then be recognized at the annual CTE Faculty Recognition Ceremony.

NOTE: Several awards may be made in one category, and none in other categories, depending on the strength and the number of applications. Also, during the review process, the committee may choose to move an application to another award category if a stronger fit is identified.

Award

Award recipients will each receive an award of **\$500** for professional development, travel, course materials, etc. Winning team submissions share the \$500.00 award. Funds will be transferred to the faculty's identified cost center. Transferred funds must be spent by the end of the fiscal year. The number of awards in total and in each category is contingent upon several factors including but not limited to, the total available budget, total number of applicants, and number of applicants in each category. Successful applicants may be asked to share all or a portion of their application and/or teaching tools with other faculty via posting on the CTE website.

Recognition Awards Ceremony

Award recipients will be honored at the CTE Recognition Awards Ceremony in April. This event brings together many of our most dedicated teachers, their Deans, the Provost, and other supportive and interested members of the IUP community. It is a wonderful opportunity for a large population to hear about the terrific work of their colleagues.

Application Procedures

Applicants may apply/submit for only one award category. ALL application materials should be submitted as a SINGLE PDF file. Applications should apply 12 point font minimum, 1 inch margins. Note: Supporting materials are limited to 5 pages. This does not include the required materials (table of contents, rationale/narrative, course syllabus).

Applications must be submitted via InfoReady and should include the following:

NOTE: Preference is given for materials/teaching from the last 2 years.

Applications must include the following **REQUIRED** elements:

- **Table of Contents**
- **Rationale/Narrative** (no more than 3 pages)
- **Course syllabus** (unless not applicable)

Applications should also include **SUPPORTING MATERIALS**:

Supporting materials should provide evidence of teaching excellence.

Supporting materials are limited to 5 pages. Materials submitted should pertain to the application being submitted. Be sure to identify in your narrative how these materials are supportive of the application. Please note, some award categories have specific requirements for materials that must be included in your narrative or supporting materials.

Below is a list of suggested materials you might include to support your application:

- Student evaluations or student opinions/comments (solicited or unsolicited)
- Sample course outline or modules
- Sample course materials
- Teaching philosophy/statement
- Examples of student work
- Letters of support
- Screen captures of D2L course organization
- Research Data