



Emerging Leader Award

BOD Y11-25-05-01 [Amended BOD Y11-04-22-70][Formerly titled: Policy and Procedures for the Emerging Leader Award] [Policy]

To identify and honor one physical therapist or physical therapist assistant "emerging leader" from each APTA component, who has demonstrated extraordinary service early in his or her physical therapy career. The individual should have made exceptional overall accomplishments and contributions to the American Physical Therapy Association the component, and the physical therapy profession to advance APTA's vision.

Eligibility

1. The nominee must be a current member of APTA for at least five years and no more than ten years from formal graduation.
2. The nominee must have current or prior service on one or more appointed or elected groups at the component or national level.

Criteria for Selection

One "emerging leader" from each component will be recognized annually, provided the component has submitted a nomination using the procedures outlined below.

The following information must be provided in the submission letter:

1. A description of the nominee's contributions.
2. Examples of demonstrated service to the Association, component, or physical therapy profession.
3. Explanation of the potential for future contributions to APTA and the physical therapy profession.
4. Examples of how the nominee has advanced activities at the component level.

The nomination should include a description of the outcome of the contributions and how the contributions align with the component or APTA goals, objectives, and vision.

Procedure for Nomination

1. The component president or their respective awards committee chair is responsible for submitting the name of the nominee and supporting information to APTA's Member Engagement Department.

2. Nominations are open Jan. 1 to May 15 of the award year.
3. The materials submitted for the nomination shall include the following:
 - A detailed nomination letter addressing the criteria for selection.
 - A copy of the nominee's CV/resume.
4. Email all materials to memberengagement@apta.org.

Notification of Award

1. APTA's Member Engagement Department will notify those selected as emerging leaders by the fourth quarter of the award year. Recognized individuals will receive a congratulatory letter from APTA's President and a certificate of recognition.
2. Emerging leaders will be recognized in APTA communications.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/**month/year/page/vote** in the Board of Directors minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P06-22-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2022 Board of Directors meeting minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

E: Binding Ethical Document | P: Position | Y: Policy

Last Updated: 12/11/2025

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