Minnesota Medical Association Awards

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Purpose
The MMA Distinguished Service Award is the association’s highest honor. It is given to a physician who has made outstanding contributions in service to the MMA and on behalf of medicine and the physicians of Minnesota during his/her career.

Eligibility Criteria
Nominees must be MMA members.

Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process
Nominations are solicited from a variety of sources and the selection is made by the MMA Awards Committee.

Presentation
The award is presented annually at the MMA Annual Conference.

PRESIDENT’S AWARD

Purpose
The President’s Award is designated for individuals who have made outstanding contributions in service to the goals of the association.

Eligibility Criteria
A recipient of the award is typically a physician who lives or works in Minnesota and who is a member of the MMA. Individuals who have received the MMA Distinguished Service Award are not eligible for consideration.

Eligible physicians have demonstrated a commitment to one or more of MMA’s three strategic goals:

- A commitment and dedication to improving the health of Minnesotans (e.g., advancing the quality and/or efficiency of health care; improving access to care for Minnesotans [may include volunteer service or charitable giving to underserved communities or populations]; improving health equity or reducing disparities; advocating for system or policy change in support of better health);
- A commitment and dedication to making Minnesota the best place to practice medicine (medical education/training [e.g., teacher/faculty, preceptor, peer mentor]; practice improvement [e.g., practice leader, peer reviewer, committee member/lead]; community service [e.g., elected office, board member, team coach/physician, school volunteer, civic group member/leader, etc.]; system or policy advocacy in support of an improved medical practice environment);
- A commitment and dedication to advancing medical professionalism (promoting the core principles of medical professionalism [patient welfare, patient autonomy, social justice]; advancing physicians’ core professional responsibilities [competency, honesty, confidentiality]; improving physician communication and/or collegiality; advocating for system or policy change to advance medical professionalism)
Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process
Nominations are solicited from a variety of sources and selection is made by the MMA Awards Committee and supported by the President.

Multiple awards may be given in this category at the discretion of the Awards Committee.

Presentation
The award(s) is presented annually by the MMA President at the MMA Annual Conference.

MEDICAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD
Purpose
The Medical Student Leadership Award honors a member of the MMA Medical Student Section (MSS) who demonstrates outstanding commitment to the medical profession.

Eligibility Criteria
The recipient must be a current member of the Minnesota Medical Association Medical Student Section who:

- Demonstrates a firm commitment to the ideals of the medical profession throughout his/her medical school career;
- Actively participates in MMA/MSS activities;
- Demonstrates strong leadership skills both within and beyond MMA/MSS;
- Exhibits a strong commitment to initiating and participating in opportunities to be of service to the medical and/or broader community.

Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process
Nominations are sought from the Deans of each of the three medical school campuses, from the MMA Medical Student Section, and from MMA members. Selections are made by the MMA Awards Committee.

Presentation
The award is typically awarded to one medical student each year, but may be awarded to more than one at the discretion of the MMA Awards Committee.

The award(s) is presented annually at the MMA Annual Conference.
RESIDENT/FELLOW LEADERSHIP AWARD

Purpose

The Resident/Fellow Leadership Award honors a member of the MMA Resident & Fellow Section (RFS) who demonstrates outstanding commitment to the medical profession.

Eligibility Criteria

The recipient must be a current member of the Minnesota Medical Association Resident & Fellow Section who:

- Demonstrates a firm commitment to the ideals of the medical profession throughout their time as a physician-in-training;
- Actively participates in MMA/RFS activities;
- Demonstrates strong leadership skills both within and beyond MMA/RFS;
- Exhibits a strong commitment to initiating and participating in opportunities to be of service to the medical and/or broader community.

Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process

Nominations are sought from the MMA Resident & Fellow Section, and from MMA members. Selections are made by the MMA Awards Committee.

Presentation

The award is typically awarded to one resident or fellow each year, but may be awarded to more than one at the discretion of the MMA Awards Committee.

The award(s) is presented annually at the MMA Annual Conference.
ERI C. DICK MEMORIAL HEALTH POLICY PARTNER AWARD

Purpose
Eric C. Dick served as the Minnesota Medical Association’s manager of state legislative affairs from 2010 until his untimely death in January 2021. Eric was known for creating and nurturing mutually beneficial relationships with individuals and organizations invested in advancing good public policy to improve the health of Minnesotans.

This award shall be given to an individual, group of individuals, a project or an organization that demonstrates their commitment to pursuing sound public policy, building coalitions, creating and/or strengthening partnerships with the goal of improving the health of Minnesotans or the practice of medicine in Minnesota.

Eligibility Criteria
Recipients can be physicians, physicians-in-training, or any individual, group of individuals, organization, or coalition that is working to improve health or health care in Minnesota through policy change.

The recipient may not be a current employee of the MMA/MMJSO or of a component medical society (CMS). However, a retired or former employee (or completed project) of the MMA/MMJSO or a CMS may be considered if that person/project has demonstrated the ability to build coalitions, create and/or strengthen partnerships with the goal of improving the health of Minnesotans practice of medicine in Minnesota.

Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process
Nominations are solicited from a variety of sources and the selection is made by the MMA Awards Committee.

Presentation
The award may be presented annually at the MMA Annual Conference at the discretion of the Awards Committee.
COPIC/MMA FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Purpose
The COPIC/MMA Foundation Humanitarian Award honors a MMA member for volunteer medical services and contributions to their community. We specifically look to recognize MMA members who go above and beyond to help address the health care needs of underserved populations in Minnesota. The recipient of the award will designate a $10,000 donation from COPIC to be provided to a health care-related 501(c)(3) organization within Minnesota.

Eligibility Criteria
The recipient must be a current member of the Minnesota Medical Association and must demonstrate an exemplary commitment to volunteering to help address the health care needs of underserved populations in Minnesota.

Nomination
To nominate a physician for the COPIC/MMA Foundation Humanitarian Award, click here. Nominations are due June 20, 2022.

Selections are made by COPIC upon recommendation from the MMA Foundation’s Board of Directors.

Presentation
The award is typically awarded to MMA member each year. The award is presented annually at the MMA Annual Conference.
JAMES H. SOVA MEMORIAL AWARD FOR ADVOCACY

Purpose
James H. Sova was the chief lobbyist for the Minnesota Medical Association from 1968 until the time of his death at the AMA meeting in December 1981.

The James H. Sova Memorial Award for Advocacy shall be made to a person who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of public policy, medical sciences, medical education, medical care or the socio-economics of medical practice.

Eligibility Criteria
The award recipient is typically not a physician. The recipient may not be a current employee of the MMA/MMJSO or of a component medical society (CMS); however, a retired or former employee of the MMA/MMJSO or a CMS may be considered if that person has demonstrated exemplary service in support of the medical profession, medical education, or the medical environment in Minnesota.

Nominations, Selection Criteria & Selection Process
Nominations are solicited from a broad variety of sources and the selection is made by the MMA Awards Committee.

Presentation
The award may be presented annually at the discretion of the Awards Committee.