

General

It shall be the duty of the OOA Board of Trustees, through the Council on Awards of the OOA Executive Committee, to present the two highest honors the Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA) can give to deserving individuals, lay persons or osteopathic physicians, in recognition of their service and contributions to the OOA – the Meritorious Service Award and the Distinguished Service Award.

Meritorious Service Award

The Meritorious Service Award is given to an individual who is not an osteopathic physician in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in scientific, philanthropic, or other fields of public service to the OOA. Not more than one such award may be granted in any one year, nor shall it necessarily be the policy of the association to make it a yearly award.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest award the OOA can give to a D.O. who is a member of the association in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in scientific or professional affairs and in service to the osteopathic profession in Ohio. No incumbent of an OOA elective office shall be eligible during his/her term of office to receive the award. The candidate must be a long-standing member of his/her local academy, the OOA, and the AOA.

Trustees Award

A third honor, the OOA Trustees Award, may be initiated directly by the OOA Board of Trustees as deemed appropriate by majority vote.

Humanitarian Award

A fourth honor, the OOA Humanitarian Award, may be given to an individual for outstanding service to mankind.

Duties Of The Council

The Council on Awards shall: (1) inform the officers of all district academies concerning the rules and procedures; (2) receive and review all petitions for the awards to ensure that petitioners have complied with the rules; and (3) carry out the purposes of the committee outlined in the Administrative Guide.

Procedure For Petitioners

The awards should be made on the basis of outstanding achievement by an individual. Preferential consideration should be given to those

individuals whose meritorious service has been to or through this profession. Recognition should be given because of the outstanding contribution to the understanding of osteopathic medicine, research, financial aid to education, or other areas which enable professionals to make an impact on the public health.

- OOA members seeking to honor deserving individuals in Ohio may petition the Board of Trustees for consideration.
- The petition shall contain pertinent biographical information about the osteopathic physician or lay individual to be honored.
- A petition shall have the endorsement of the local academy.
- No member holding an OOA elective office may sign a petition.
- The petition shall be accompanied by a written statement of the recommendation from the candidate's county unit or local academy and forwarded to the OOA Executive Director who will transmit it to the Council on Awards.
- Petitions must be received by the Executive Director by February 28th in order to be acted upon by the Council on Awards for the annual meeting.
- Members must be aware that the association cherishes the OOA Meritorious Service Award and the OOA Distinguished Service Award, as its highest awards and grants them to deserving members or lay individuals only after careful investigation and by secret ballot of the Board of Trustees of the OOA. All petitions should be considered confidential.
- When appropriate, the board, may initiate award proceedings by at least one third of its members.

The Selection Process

- Upon receipt of a petition for either award, the Executive Director shall forward true copies of the petitions to the members of the committee, retaining the original in the permanent files of the association.
- The council shall review the petitions to determine that they contain necessary signatures, including information and statements.
- The committee shall conduct a discreet but thorough investigation to determine the accuracy of the information and statements in the petitions.
- After careful review, the committee chairman shall nominate a candidate for one or both as recommended by the committee presenting pertinent data as needed to the Board of Trustees.
- Three-fourths majority of the board members shall be present and voting for an affirmative vote.
- The Board shall notify each recipient, and the recipient shall be requested to attend the next annual meeting of the membership for presentation of the award by the President.