



Edith and Peter O'Donnell Awards FAQ Guide

FEBRUARY 2020

TAMEST *The Academy of Medicine,
Engineering & Science of Texas*



Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility Requirements

Who can be a nominator?

For the medicine, engineering and science award categories, qualified nominators include TAMEST members, chancellors, university presidents, provosts, deans and vice presidents for research.

For the technology innovation award category, qualified nominators include TAMEST members, industry executives, administrators, managers and supervisors, chancellors, university presidents, provosts, deans and vice presidents for research.

Can a nominee nominate themselves and submit their own nomination form?

No. A nominee cannot nominate themselves. A nominee can submit the actual nomination form and supporting documents; however, the nomination form must include a different name for the nominator.

Does my institution or company have to be a TAMEST member institution to submit a nomination?

No. All nominations from TAMEST member institutions and non-TAMEST member institutions will be considered and reviewed equally by the respective subcommittee.

For the technology innovation category, the nominations may also be from non-TAMEST member institutions, but the nominee must be currently working in an industry organization, NOT in an academic institution.

Is there a limit to the number of nominees an individual institution or organization can nominate each year?

No. However, organizations are encouraged to only submit their top one or two nominees per award cycle.

Are there any exceptions regarding eligibility requirements?

No. It is important for nominators to ensure all eligibility requirements are met before submitting a nomination.



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Nomination Materials

Are paper copies of nomination forms accepted?

No. The nomination application must be submitted through the online application form which is located on the TAMEST website (tamest.org/odonnell-awards).

Who should write letters of support?

Individuals from institutions, organizations or authoritative individuals other than the nominee's current organization should write the letters of support. Individuals who are members of a National Academy are encouraged to write a letter of support.

Note: Letters of support are often submitted before the nomination forms. It is suggested that the nominator's name be included within the context of the letter of support to help prepare the nomination file upon receipt.

Should the nominator wait to submit the nomination form until all of the letters of support are received?

No. The support letters should be emailed independently and directly to TAMEST at tamest@austin.utexas.edu.

What if all three letters of support are not provided by those who agreed to provide them?

It is recommended that nominators ask more than three individuals to write a letter of support in the event that one individual does not submit a letter. All received letters of support will be included in the nomination file.

Regarding the publications needed as part of the required nominations documents, should a PDF of the entire publication be submitted?

No. It is important to include only the pages of the publication pertinent to the nominee's citations. (i.e., if the nominee's article/citation is only 10 pages of a 500-page publication, please only send the applicable 10 pages.)



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Re-Nomination

Will a nominee automatically be considered for an O'Donnell Award the following year if they did not receive an award for the year in which they were nominated?

No. Nominees will not be automatically re-nominated. A new nomination form is required each year.

Note: It is not unusual for a nominee to be nominated more than once before receiving an O'Donnell Award.

If a nominator would like to submit a re-nomination for a previously nominated individual, do they need to re-submit all supporting documents with a new nomination form?

No. If there are no changes to the information provided in the previous nomination form, the nominator can request the previous nomination file to be used. The nominator should ensure the nominee is still eligible and also must inform TAMEST of the request to re-nominate using a previous nomination file.

Nominee Selection

Can nominees from the same academic institution receive an O'Donnell Award in different categories (medicine, engineering and science) in the same year?

Yes. Each subcommittee reviews their separate category's nominees independently and may choose and recommend finalists from the same institution as another subcommittee.

When will nominees be notified if they will be receiving an O'Donnell Award?

Nominees selected as an O'Donnell Awards recipient will be notified along with their nominators in early October. If a nominee is not selected, only the nominator will be notified (also in early October).

All nomination materials, including letters of support, for the 2021 O'Donnell Awards must be received in electronic form by April 30, 2020.

Still looking for an answer to your question?

Contact Christine McCoy at (512) 471-3823 or cmccoy@austin.utexas.edu