

CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Helpful Hints for a Great Nomination Packet

Affordable Access Awards

Affordable Access Advocacy & Adoption Award

This award honors individuals who champion affordable access through bold, sustainable, and far-reaching efforts. If you're nominating someone for this award, here are five tips to help you craft a compelling and well-documented nomination:

1. Define the scope and scale.

Describe the size and reach of the nominee's effort—how many courses, sections, or students were impacted? Clarify whether the work influenced a single course, a department, or the institution as a whole.

2. Emphasize sustainability and systems change.

Explain how the nominee's work goes beyond a one-time project. Highlight long-term strategies such as policy changes, toolkits, workflows, or mentorship that support ongoing adoption and advocacy.

3. Showcase curricular integration.

Describe how affordable access strategies—like OER—are meaningfully embedded into the course design. Include examples of alignment with learning outcomes, student co-creation, or pedagogical innovation.

4. Provide evidence of cost savings and impact.

Include clear, well-documented data on student savings and learning outcomes. If possible, show how the nominee's work has inspired others or been reused across contexts.

5. Clarify contributions.

If the effort involved collaboration, clearly define the nominee's role. Emphasize their leadership, advocacy, and influence in advancing affordable access in online education.

CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Helpful Hints for a Great Nomination Packet

Affordable Access Awards

Affordable Access Innovation & Design Award

This award honors the creation and implementation of open educational resources (OER) that are not only innovative but also scalable, sustainable, and impactful. If you're nominating someone for this award, here are five tips to help you build a strong and well-supported nomination:

1. Emphasize breadth and longevity.

Describe how widely the OER has been adopted—across courses, sections, programs, or terms—and how the initiative has been sustained over time. Highlight any institutional or cross-departmental reach.

2. Showcase cost savings and student impact.

Include clear, verifiable data on how much students have saved and how the OER has improved learning outcomes, equity, or access. If possible, provide comparisons to previous materials or models.

3. Highlight openness and reuse.

Explain how the materials are licensed, shared, and discoverable. Include evidence of reuse or adaptation by others, and describe how the nominee has supported broader adoption through toolkits, repositories, or mentorship.

4. Describe instructional quality.

Show how the OER aligns with learning outcomes and reflects inclusive, research-informed design. Include examples of assessments, accessibility features, or continuous improvement efforts that enhance pedagogical value.

5. Clarify contributions.

If the project involved a team, clearly define the nominee's role. Emphasize their leadership in designing, implementing, and sharing high-quality, affordable learning materials.