

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

College of Education
& P-16 Integration

**College of Education and P-16
Integration Faculty Awards Program
2025-2026**

Where Excellence Matters



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Table of Contents

College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026	1
Purpose and Overview	3
Timeline.....	3
A. Description, Criteria, Eligibility, and Nomination Process for Awards in Each Category	4
1. Faculty Teaching Award	4
2. Faculty Research Award.....	5
3. Faculty Service	6
4. Faculty Continuous Improvement.....	7
B. Nomination Packet Contents and Submission Instructions.....	9
C. CEP College Council	10



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Purpose and Overview

The College of Education and P-16 Integration (CEP) is proud of its faculty's accomplishments in teaching, research, service, and continuous improvement. The CEP Faculty Awards are one way to highlight and reward faculty who excel in these areas.

The categories for the 2025-2026 Faculty Awards are:

- *Faculty Teaching*
- *Faculty Research*
- *Faculty Contributions in Continuous Improvement*
- *Faculty Service*

Each award comes with a \$1,000.00 honorarium. The College of Education and P-16 Integration College Council will review the nominations and provide recommendations to Dean Alma D. Rodriguez. Each award must have at least two nominations for a selection to be made.

Timeline

December 8:	Call for nominations for CEP Faculty Awards
January 23:	Deadline to submit nomination packet
February 6:	Deadline for College of Education and P-16 Integration College Council to submit their recommendations of the top applicant for each award category to Dean Alma D. Rodriguez
February 9:	Award recipients are announced
March 1:	Recipient receives award



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

A. Description, Criteria, Eligibility, and Nomination Process for Awards in Each Category

1. Faculty Teaching Award

This annual award is given to a full-time tenure-track, tenured, professor of practice, or lecturer faculty from the UTRGV College of Education and P-16 Integration for excellence in teaching. The award is designed to bring visibility to one outstanding faculty member and to reward them for leading students toward distinction in learning.

Criteria

The selection criteria are as follows:

- The nominee demonstrates innovative, creative, and/or research-based teaching practices that engage students.

The nominee demonstrates continued development of teaching skills.

- The nominee uses feedback from peers and students to revise teaching strategies to create a positive learning environment.
- The nominee is a mentor to students at the baccalaureate, master's, and/or doctoral levels (e.g., supervising undergraduate student research, mentoring a graduate student to prepare for their first professional role, chairing a doctoral student's dissertation).
- The nominee demonstrates effective use of technology.
- The nominee has demonstrated the impact of their teaching practices on student learning.
- The nominee participates in developing and improving curriculum.

Eligibility

- Currently teaching
- Notable record of success (more than 3 full years in graduate, doctoral, and/or undergraduate College of Education and P-16 Integration education) in educating baccalaureate, post-baccalaureate, master's, and/or doctoral students.
- Must not have been a recipient of the College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Teaching Award within the previous three (3) academic years (i.e., 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025).



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Nomination process

- Nominee and nominator contact information.
- One (1) letter of nomination with an overview of nominee's contributions to teaching excellence and impact on student learning as well as a description of recent teaching achievements in the past 3 years. Nomination letter should address the criteria for the teaching award and should not be longer than 2-pages, single-spaced. The nominator should address all criteria in the evaluation rubric.
- Nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae (2-3 pages) with highlighted achievements/activities in teaching in the previous three academic years.

2. Faculty Research Award

This award honors a faculty member whose research contributions have impacted the field, has been recognized by the professional community, and/or has demonstrated new or creative approaches to research methodologies.

Criteria

The selection criteria are as follows:

- The nominee has a consistent and increasing record of accomplishment aligned with a strong and clear research agenda.
- The nominee engages in research and/or creative performance projects of high level as determined through peer review and dissemination in high quality outlets.
- The nominee has established scholarly independence (e.g., lead author on peer-reviewed publications) on peer-reviewed research activities.
- The nominee demonstrates that their research activities are high quality and have a significant impact on the field.
- The nominee demonstrates involvement in external and internal grant submissions as a Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator, Key Personnel, and/or Project Evaluator.

Eligibility

- College of Education and P-16 Integration faculty member with notable record of outstanding research contributions to the field.
- Has not been a recipient of the College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Research Award within the previous three (3) academic years (i.e., 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025).



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Nomination Process

- Nominee and nominator contact information.
- One (1) letter of nomination with an overview of nominee's contributions to excellence in research as well as a description of recent research achievements in the past 3 years. Nomination letter should address the criteria for the research award and should not be longer than 2-pages, single-spaced. The nominator should address all criteria in the evaluation rubric.
- Nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae (2-3 pages) with highlighted achievements/activities in research in the previous 3 years.

3. Faculty Service

This award honors a faculty member who draws on their professional expertise to serve the department, college, university, profession, and/or broader community in a variety of ways.

Criteria

The selection criteria are as follows:

- The nominee demonstrates engagement and significant contributions in service to the **department**. Examples include but are not limited to advising student groups; mentoring students or faculty; leading faculty development activities; or leading committees.
- The nominee demonstrates engagement and significant contributions to the **college**. Examples include but are not limited to leading faculty development activities; serving or leading curriculum committees; or serving on accreditation preparation teams.
- The nominee demonstrates engagement and significant contributions to the **university**. Examples include but are not limited to serving on curriculum committees, faculty senate, awards committees, etc.
- The nominee demonstrates engagement and significant contributions in the **profession** and **community**. Examples include but are not limited to serving in a leadership role in professional organizations, serving as editor/reviewer for scholarly journals, serving with other institutions on accreditation and/or program evaluation teams, making public presentations/performances for general community audiences, and/or serving on community advisory boards that reflect their professional experiences.



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Eligibility

- College of Education and P-16 Integration faculty members with a notable record of contributions in service.
- Has not been a recipient of the College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Service Award within the previous three (3) academic years (i.e., 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025).

Nomination Process

- Nominee and nominator contact information.
- One (1) letter of nomination with an overview of nominee's contributions to excellence in service as well as a description of recent service achievements in the past 3 years. Nomination letter should address the criteria for the service award and should not be longer than 2-pages, single-spaced. The nominator should address all criteria in the evaluation rubric.
- Nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae (2-3 pages) with highlighted achievements/activities in service in the previous 3 years.

4. Faculty Continuous Improvement

This award honors a faculty member who draws on their professional expertise to lead the department and/or college in continuous improvement.

Criteria

The selection criteria are as follows:

- The nominee demonstrates efforts to lead the program, department and/or the college in the alignment of curriculum, assessment, and/or policies to national and state standards resulting in the attainment of national accreditation for the program and/or educator preparation program.
- The nominee demonstrates engagement and significant contributions in activities at the program, department, or college level that result in the continuous improvement of the program and/or EPP (e.g., key assessments, curriculum mapping, master syllabi development, pilot projects, initiatives aligned with the college strategic plan).
- The nominee demonstrates significant efforts to lead the development of policies or other documents that result in the continuous improvement of program, department, or college processes (e.g., program handbooks, action plans).



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

- The nominee demonstrates significant efforts to lead the development or enactment of strategic planning activities at the program, department, or college level.



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

Eligibility

- College of Education and P-16 Integration faculty member with a notable record of outstanding contributions that have led to continuous program improvement.
- Has not been a recipient of the College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Continuous Improvement Award within the previous three (3) academic years (i.e., 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025).

Nomination Process

- Nominee and nominator contact information,
- One (1) letter of nomination with an overview of nominee's contributions to excellence in continuous improvement as well as a description of recent achievements in continuous improvements in the past 3 years. Nomination letter should address the criteria for the continuous improvement award and should not be longer than 2-pages, single-spaced. The nominator should address all criteria in the evaluation rubric.
- Nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae (2-3 pages) with highlighted achievements/activities in continuous improvement in the previous three years.

B. Nomination Packet Contents and Submission Instructions

1. Cover page with the following information
 - a. Faculty Award category
 - b. Name of nominee
 - c. Current position of nominee
 - d. Number of years in current position
2. One (1) letter of nomination (no longer than 2-pages, single-spaced) addressing the selection criteria.
3. Nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae (2-3 pages) with highlighted achievements/activities in the category for which the faculty member is being nominated.

Each nomination should contain all required documents and submit to the faculty awards nomination form no later than January 23rd at 11:59 pm. Nominations that do not adhere to these guidelines will be disqualified from the review process.



College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards Program 2025-2026

C. CEP College Council

The College of Education and P-16 Integration College Council will review all applicants' information and make recommendations to Dean Alma D. Rodriguez. The College Council will:

- Review materials and use evaluation rubrics based on selection criteria for each award.
- Only review materials that are aligned with the items above.
- Only review application packets that are complete, adhered to guidelines, and received by the deadline.
- Only review awards categories with two (2) or more nominations.
- Adhere to confidentiality during review proceedings.
- Forward their recommendations of the top candidate for each award category to Dean Alma D. Rodriguez no later than the deadline in this call for College of Education and P-16 Integration Faculty Awards.