



## **AWARDS OF DISTINCTION POLICY & PROCEDURES**

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Approved by: ACP Executive Committee, ACP Board of Directors

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Policy (New or Revised): Revised

Revised Dates: 9/2/12; 12/11/13; 6/2/18; 3/28/19; 2/26/21,10/28/25

### **I. Purpose**

The American College of Prosthodontists through its awards program formally recognizes individuals whose contributions to the specialty or to the College are outstanding and substantial and satisfy the approved criteria for each specific award.

The purposes of the College awards shall be to:

- Recognize the most outstanding contributions of individuals within categories representing the specialty or the College as a whole, or representing specific areas in or related to practice, education, research, or to the literature in prosthodontics.
- Serve as an incentive for the College's members in their achievement of outstanding and substantial contributions to the specialty or to the College.
- Provide national attention and recognition for the contributions of the recipients and serve to enhance the reputation and public awareness of the entire specialty. For individual members so recognized, the College awards represent the highest level of peer recognition.
- Enhance the esteem of the American College of Prosthodontists.

### **II. Scope of Policy**

During their respective term of service, the chair of the Nominating Committee, members of the Nominating Committee and members of the ACP Board of Directors shall be excluded from eligibility for all awards.

Membership in the College is required for the following awards:

- Educator of the Year Award
- Junior Educator of the Year
- Dan Gordon Award
- Clinician Award
- Major General Bill B. Lefler Federal Services Award
- Private Practice Prosthodontist Award(s)

Membership is preferred for the following awards:

- Distinguished Researcher Award
- Distinguished Service Award
- Dental Technician Leadership Award

The awards of the College are given according to the approved criteria and consideration to an individual's qualifications. These awards may or may not be given annually. Only one person per year may be selected for each award. Sponsorship for awardee dinner ticket will be sought for the Annual Awards Celebration.

### **III. Nomination and Selection Procedures**

#### **A. Members**

Any member of the College may submit a letter of nomination for the following awards:

- Distinguished Service Award
- Dan Gordon Award
- Dental Technician Leadership Award
- Private Practice Prosthodontist Award(s)\*

A brief biosketch and high-resolution color photo should accompany the letter of nomination. The letter of nomination should include why you are nominating the individual; years the nominee has been known; in what capacity/relationship one has to the nominee; with the personal evaluation of the skills or accomplishments of nominee. The nominations for these awards will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will make the final selection. The deadline for nominations for the ACP Awards of Distinction will be announced in the annual Call for Nominations document.

\*The Private Practice Prosthodontist Award is awarded regionally. Please see the specific requirements and nomination procedure in Section IV-H.

#### **B. Directors and Committee Chairs**

Division Directors, Regional Directors, and Committee Chairs should submit their selection(s) for these awards according to the award criteria:

- Distinguished Researcher Award
- Educator of the Year Award
- Junior Educator of the Year
- Clinician Award
- Major General Bill B. Lefler Federal Services Award

A brief biosketch and high-resolution color photo should accompany the nomination. The winners of these awards will be recognized at the Annual Session and are strongly encouraged to attend.

#### **C. Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee will meet by conference calls to review nominees and determine the awardees that meet the specific award criteria.

#### IV. Award of Distinction Criteria

A. **Distinguished Researcher Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Distinguished Researcher Award to individuals whose research represents a significant contribution to the literature, teaching, or clinical applications of the College and/or specialty of prosthodontics, dentistry, science, and health professions.

i. Criteria & Requirements:

- Essay during scientific program, publications in the Journal of Prosthodontics, and/or a significant body of publications/lectures on original research of significance to the specialty of prosthodontics.
- Individuals (ACP member preferred, outstanding research contributions to dentistry with emphasis in prosthodontics;
- Must possess a DDS, DMD, MD, PhD, or equivalent degree.
- Must not have received this award previously.

ii. Selected by:

- Nominating Committee
- Annual Session Committee may forward nominees.
- Education & Research Division Director may forward nominees.
- Editor- in-Chief of the Journal of Prosthodontics may forward nominees.
- Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.

iii. Presentation:

- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
- Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.

iv. Award:

- Travel and lodging for awardee funded by the ACP Annual Session speaker budget.
- Plaque for awardee funded by the ACP Education Foundation.

B. **Distinguished Service Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Distinguished Service Award to individuals who have made significant contributions to the welfare and advancement of the College and/or specialty of prosthodontics, dentistry, science, and health professions.

i. Criteria & Requirements:

- Individuals (dentist or non-dentist) contributing to welfare and advancement of the College or prosthodontics; outstanding contributions to dentistry; outstanding service to the College; contributions to the sciences or health professions; humanitarian contributions.
- Must not have received this award previously.

ii. Selected by:

- Nominating Committee.
- College members are encouraged to submit nominations.
- Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.

iii. Presentation:

- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
  - Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.
- iv. Award:
- If non-member, travel and lodging for awardee.
  - Plaque funded by ACP

C. **Educator of the Year Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Educator of the Year Award to dental educators for outstanding contributions to the welfare and advancement of the College and/or specialty of prosthodontics, overall achievement to academic dentistry and contributions to the sciences and health professions.

- i. Criteria & Requirements:
- Individuals (ACP members) contributing to welfare and advancement of the College and the specialty of prosthodontics; exceptional figure in academic dentistry; known and respected for contributions to prosthodontic education.
  - Recognized for exceptional skills as a prosthodontic educator.
  - Must not have received this award previously.
- ii. Selected by:
- Nominating Committee
  - Education and Research Division to submit nominations.
  - Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.
- iii. Presentation:
- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
  - Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.
- iv. Award:
- Plaque funded by ACP

D. **Junior Educator of the Year Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Junior Educator of the Year Award to a young junior dental educator who is having an impact in prosthodontics.

- i. Criteria & Requirements:
- Individuals (ACP members, with-in seven years of completing a prosthodontic specialty program). Contributing to welfare and advancement of the College and the specialty of prosthodontics; a rising figure in academic dentistry; and having an impact in prosthodontic education.
  - Recognized for his/her skills as a prosthodontic educator.
  - Must not have received this award previously.
- ii. Selected by:
- Nominating Committee
  - Annual Session Committee may forward nominees.
  - Education & Research Division to submit nominations
  - Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.
- iii. Presentation:
- Annual Awards Celebration during Annual Session.
  - Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.

- iv. Award:
  - Plaque for awardee funded by the ACP.

E. **Dan Gordon Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Dan Gordon Award for lifetime achievement that recognizes individuals who have contributed at the highest level to the welfare and advancement of the College and/or specialty of prosthodontics, dentistry, science, and health professions. In honor of Dr. Daniel F. Gordon, ACP President from 1977-78.

- i. Criteria & Requirements:
  - An award recognizing a lifetime of achievement in service to the specialty of prosthodontics and to the advancement of the College.
  - Highly respected colleague with a reputation for collaboration both within the College and with other dental specialties in activities contributing to clinical excellence and patient well-being,
  - Must not have received this award previously.
- ii. Selected by:
  - Nominating Committee.
  - College members are encouraged to submit nominations.
  - Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.
- iii. Presentation:
  - Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
  - Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.
- iv. Award:
  - Plaque funded by ACP

F. **Clinician Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Clinician Award to individuals for outstanding clinical practice contributions to the welfare and advancement of the College and/or specialty of prosthodontics, outstanding contributions to the advancement of clinical dentistry and contributions to the sciences or health professions.

- i. Criteria & Requirements:
  - Individuals (ACP members) contributing to welfare and advancement of the College or prosthodontics; outstanding contributions to clinical dentistry; contributions to the sciences or health professions.
  - Must not have received this award previously.
- ii. Selected by:
  - Nominating Committee
  - Education and Research Division to submit nominees
  - Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.
- iii. Presentation:
  - Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
  - Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.
- iv. Award:
  - Plaque funded by ACP

G. **Major General (Retired) Bill B. Lefler Federal Services Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Major General (Retired) Bill B. Lefler Federal Services Award to individuals for excellence in the areas of leadership, patient care, mentorship, and service to community.

i. Criteria & Requirements:

- Must be a prosthodontist who is a member of the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP).
- Must have made significant and ongoing contributions to the American College of Prosthodontists.
- Must be a current Active-Duty Service member, employee, or a retiree (within the past three years) of the Department of Defense, U.S. Public Health Service, or the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Nominated individuals should exhibit excellence in the areas of leadership, patient care, mentorship, and service to the community.
- Must not have received this award previously.

ii. Selected by:

- Nominating Committee
- Nominations submitted to Nominating Committee by the Federal Services Region of the ACP.
- Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.

iii. Presentation:

- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
- Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.

iv. Award:

- Plaque funded by ACP

H. **Dental Technician Leadership Award:** The American College of Prosthodontists awards the ACP Dental Technician Leadership Award to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service to the prosthodontic community and in furtherance of the mission of the ACP.

i. Criteria & Requirements:

- Dental laboratory technicians who have made outstanding contributions to the dental laboratory profession and the discipline of prosthodontics.
- Recognized as exceptionally skilled in dental laboratory techniques.
- Must not have received this award previously.

ii. Selected by:

- Nominating Committee.
- Nominations submitted to Nominating Committee by the Dental Technician Alliance Committee of the ACP.
- College members are encouraged to submit nominations.
- Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.

iii. Presentation:

- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
- Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.

iv. Award:

- Plaque funded by ACP

I. **Private Practice Prosthodontists Awards:** The Award may be given annually to up to 6 individual private practice prosthodontists (one per ACP United States and International Region) who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the specialty of prosthodontics, through prosthodontic practice, enhancing the public's understanding of the role of a private practice prosthodontist in comprehensive oral health care as well as exemplifying collegiality and cross discipline outreach, and/or exemplary community service. The award is a lifetime award and an individual may receive it only once.

i. **Criteria & Requirements:**

- ACP prosthodontist members who are currently in primarily full time traditional private practice (solo or group), excluding institutional and multisite corporate practices.
- Members from the 5 US ACP Regions and International Region; excludes the military Region.
- Must not have received this award previously.

ii. **Nomination Process:**

- Individuals may be nominated by others; a nomination form will be available online at the ACP website. See Attachment A.
- The completed nomination form must be submitted directly to the appropriate Regional Membership Director.
- Every nomination must be accompanied by 3 letters of recommendation from the nominating region including one prosthodontist ACP member peer, one referring dentist, and one community/dental organization/leader, lab technician or patient.

iii. **Selected by:**

- Each US ACP Regional Membership Director will convene a call of the Section Presidents to review and select the nominees.
- Once selected, each Regional Director will submit their award candidate(s) to the ACP Nominating Committee for approval.
- Approval of Board of Directors at June meeting during the year of presentation.

iv. **Presentation:**

- Annual Awards & Presidents Dinner during Annual Session.
- Brief remarks from President as appropriate for the individual.

v. **Award:**

- Plaque funded by ACP

vi. **Caveat:**

- The intention of ACP's Private Practice Prosthodontist award is to honor a person, not a practice. Thus, future reference to this award in promotional material, PR campaigns, press releases, in traditional and social media, on the website, in ads, biosketches, and other instances must align to this intent. Misrepresentation of what this award signifies risks revocation of this award by the ACP.

**V. Review/Revision Dates**  
9/2/12; 12/11/13; 6/2/18; 3/28/19; 2/28/21

**VI. Approval Groups**  
ACP Executive Committee  
ACP Board of Directors