

The University of Texas at Arlington Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award Criteria

Purpose and Philosophy

The University of Texas at Arlington Alumni Association established the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1965. The purpose of the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards is to recognize outstanding alumni for their individual achievements, contributions to their industries or professions, service to their community and demonstrated loyalty to The University of Texas at Arlington. In addition to the general Distinguished Alumni Award, a Service Award and an Honorary Award are also presented. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor given by the University and Alumni Association to a graduate. The award is presented at the annual Distinguished Alumni Gala. This special evening not only honors exceptional alumni, but also generates significant scholarship funds for students.

Eligibility

- ❖ With the exception of the Service Award and the Honorary Award, the candidates must have a degree from The University of Texas at Arlington. Students in certificate courses, noncredit courses, and continuing education courses are not eligible.
- ❖ Current members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, current university faculty or current staff members are not eligible.
- ❖ Current members of the UT System Board of Regents are not eligible
- ❖ Candidates should not be a contender for any elective public office. An individual who currently holds an elective public office will not be selected in a year in which he or she might be elected or re-elected.

Selection Criteria

Qualified candidates for the Distinguished Alumni Award will be accomplished in the following areas:

- ❖ **Professional Attainment and Achievement** – Candidates should have attained prominence in his or her industry or profession. Their work should have a demonstrated impact.
- ❖ **Community Service/ Outstanding Service to Industry or Profession** – Candidates should have demonstrated outstanding voluntary service to his or her community or outstanding service to his or her industry or profession.
- ❖ **The University of Texas at Arlington Loyalty and Support** – Candidates should have demonstrated a pride in their alma mater through contributed time, talent or donations. Their interest in and loyalty to The University of Texas at Arlington should be evident.
- ❖ **Integrity and Character** - Candidate must have the highest standard of personal integrity and character.

The Honorary Award will be presented to a candidate who meets all the selection criteria but does not hold a degree from The University of Texas at Arlington.

The Service Award will be presented to a candidate who demonstrates outstanding service to The University of Texas at Arlington.

Candidates must be able to attend the Distinguished Alumni Gala in October if selected as an Honoree.

Method of Nomination

- ❖ The University of Texas at Arlington Alumni Association will provide an award nomination form upon request as well as post a downloadable form at www.utaalumni.org
- ❖ Nominations may be made by any member of The University of Texas at Arlington Alumni Association.
- ❖ Nominations may be made by any member of The University of Texas at Arlington administration, faculty, or staff.
- ❖ Nominations may be made by any friend or former student of The University of Texas at Arlington.
- ❖ There is no limit placed on the number of nominations.
- ❖ One nomination per individual will be considered per year.
- ❖ An individual can only receive the award one time.
- ❖ An individual can be nominated for the award regardless of how many times he or she has been nominated in the past.
- ❖ The name of the nominator will not be disclosed.
- ❖ In the event that a candidate is not selected as an Honoree, his or her nomination packet will not be carried over to the next year for consideration.
- ❖ Nominators must submit a completed nomination packet (details to follow).

Nomination Packet Criteria

Qualified candidate for the Distinguished Alumni Award should have submitted nomination packets including the following:

- ❖ Completed Nomination Form
- ❖ Bio
- ❖ Newspaper and magazine articles if applicable
- ❖ Awards or certificates of achievement if applicable
- ❖ Other items of interest

Honoree Selection

The University of Texas at Arlington will use the following guidelines for the Honoree selection:

- ❖ Final award selections are made by the Distinguished Alumni Gala Committee.
- ❖ Only one candidate will be selected per College, School or Department.
- ❖ Only one candidate will be selected for the Service Award.
- ❖ Only one candidate will be selected for the Honorary Award.