



National Association of Social Workers, AZ Chapter

ANNUAL CHAPTER AWARDS POLICY



It is the policy of NASW-AZ to annually present awards to recognize outstanding achievements and/or contributions to the Social Work profession and/or its values.

Branches are encouraged to annually make the following awards:

- Branch Social Worker of the Year
- Branch Citizen of the Year
- Branch Public Elected Official of the Year
- Branch Lifetime Achievement

These awards are to be based on the criteria and nomination process as defined herein. To be considered for an award, the nomination packet must include all the requirements. Selection of Branch winners is to be made by the elected Branch leadership.

The Board of Directors will then select the Chapter award recipients from the Branch winners.

In order to develop timely processing of these awards so that they may be made in March of each year, the following schedule is established:

1. Official award nomination forms and criteria will be published in the September/October issue of the newsletter.
2. Nominations must be postmarked by December 31st.
3. Branch winners, including complete nominations packets, are to be submitted to the Chapter office by January 30th.
4. Branches will recognize their award winners at the Branch celebration scheduled in March.

5. All Branch Winners will be asked to complete a short form that provides additional information about their contributions to the profession and to the community.
6. Using the form completed by the branch winner, the Board of Directors is to complete its selection of Chapter award winners by July 31st, and notify all Chapter leadership of such by August 15th. (*Branch winners must complete this form in order to be considered for the award).

This policy is not to deter the Chapter Board of Directors or elected Branch leadership from making awards other than those identified herein.

NASW ARIZONA CHAPTER ANNUAL AWARD CRITERIA

Chapter Award recipients are chosen by the NASW-AZ Board of Directors.

SOCIAL WORKER OF THE YEAR

Candidates for the Arizona Chapter Social Worker of the Year must:

1. Be a NASW Arizona Chapter member in good standing.
2. Make a difference in an area such as: advocacy for clients; impact on social policy; exceptional practice; program creation; research, or administration.
3. Demonstrate outstanding leadership.
4. Contribute to a positive image for the profession.
5. Take risks achieving results.

To nominate a candidate for Social Worker of the Year, submit:

1. An official nomination form which includes a brief synopsis of the following:
 - What did the nominee do to warrant this nomination?
 - What risks did the nominee take to achieve the results noted?
 - What was accomplished and what is the long term impact?
 - Who benefited?

PUBLIC CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Candidates for the NASW-AZ Public Citizen of the Year must:

1. Make a significant contribution to an area or population of concern to social work such as:
 - Public social issues
 - Population at risk
 - Quality of life for communities
2. Act with courage and verve.

3. Demonstrate outstanding leadership
4. Exemplify social work values and ethics
5. Not hold a social work degree

To nominate a candidate for Public Citizen of the Year, submit:

1. An official nomination form which includes a brief synopsis of the following:
 - What did the nominee do to warrant this nomination?
 - What risks did the nominee take to achieve the results noted?
 - What was accomplished and what is the long term impact?
 - Who benefited?

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Candidates for the NASW-AZ Lifetime Achievement Award must:

1. Demonstrate
 - Repeated outstanding achievements
 - Recognition beyond the social work profession
 - Contributions with a lasting impact
 - Outstanding creativity and courage
2. Meet all the criteria for Social Worker of the Year
3. Be an NASW member in Good Standing

In honoring the Lifetime Achievement Award winner, NASW emphasizes the best social work values and accomplishments as demonstrated in a lifetime career.

To nominate a candidate for the NASW-AZ Lifetime Achievement Award, submit:

1. An official nomination form which includes a brief synopsis of the following:
 - What did the nominee do to warrant this nomination?
 - What risks did the nominee take to achieve the results noted?
 - What was accomplished and what is the long term impact?
 - Who benefited?

PUBLIC ELECTED OFFICIAL AWARD

Candidates for the NASW-AZ Public Elected Official Award must:

1. Be an elected official serving, at the time of nomination, in public office at the local, state, or national level.
2. Be an individual who has made a significant contribution to public service as an elected official.
3. Have demonstrated leadership in advancing public policy in the area, of
 - vulnerable populations
 - civil and human rights

social welfare
or demonstrated leadership on behalf of the protection and advancement of social
work practice.

4. Must exemplify social work values and ethics.

Special consideration will be given to social worker elected officials.

To nominate a candidate for NASW-AZ Public Elected Official Award, submit:

1. An official nomination form which includes a synopsis of the following:
What did the nominee do to warrant this nomination?
What risks did the nominee take to achieve the results noted?
What was accomplished and what is the long term impact?
Who benefited?

PRESIDENT'S AWARD (Selected by the current President of NASW-AZ)

Candidates for the NASW-AZ President's Award must:

1. Meet all criteria for Social Worker of the Year
2. Demonstrate outstanding leadership, creativity, and/or service to the Chapter.

To nominate a candidate for the NASW-AZ President's Award, submit:

1. An official nomination form
2. Provide a one-page summary of contributions listing:
What did the social worker do?
What was accomplished via participation in the chapter?
Who benefited as a result of the work and in what ways?
3. Resume or Curriculum Vitae
4. A letter of recommendation from a past or current chapter president.