

DESCRIPTION OF MHIMA AWARDS

Distinguished Member Award:

Award Description: The Distinguished Member Award is MHIMA's highest award of honor. This award celebrates an individual with a long, exceptional history of HIM contributions. It is awarded to an outstanding individual whose record of contributions to the field over many years is truly exceptional.

Qualifications: Qualified individuals are HIM professionals who have made significant contributions to the HIM field through dedicated volunteer service, innovative professional practice, education, research, or publishing. Nominees must be active AHIMA members at the time of nomination.

Guidelines: Nominee must meet at least two of these criteria to be eligible for the Distinguished Member Award. Required nomination criteria for this award include the following:

- ❑ Volunteer service as an officer, director, committee or council chair or member, task force chair or member, special project director, CoP Facilitator, or representative of the HIM field at government hearings for MHIMA or other healthcare associations.
- ❑ Advancing professional practice through development of new theory; active dissemination of knowledge about cutting edge practice innovations; or leadership in a specialty area.
- ❑ Regular presenter at HIM conferences and other educational events; respected instructor in academic HIM programs; or developer of groundbreaking teaching strategies.

e-HIM Award:

Award Description: The e-HIM Award honors those individuals or organizations that have made important advances in areas related to e-HIM.

Qualifications: Qualified individuals are HIM professionals who have helped "push the envelope" in and the transition to electronic health information management and have advanced the state-of-the-art through their work. Nominees must be active AHIMA members at the time of nomination.

Guidelines: Nominee must meet at least two of these criteria to be eligible for the e-HIM Award. Nomination criteria for this award include the following:

- ❑ Participating in setting facility-wide standards.
- ❑ Implementing e-HIM systems that impact the quality and safety of delivery of healthcare within an organization.
- ❑ Performing systems analysis to develop or design e-HIM systems.

Mentor Award:

Award Description: The Mentor Award honors individuals with long records of encouraging students or colleagues to realize their full potential, or have helped them find ways to achieve their best.

Qualifications: Qualified individuals are those rare professional colleagues and friends who touch our lives and launch us toward new horizons. Posthumous awards may be given.

Guidelines: Nominee must meet at least two of these criteria to be eligible for the Mentor Award. Nomination criteria for this award include the following:

- ❑ A record of motivating talented young people to enter the HIM profession.
- ❑ Willingness to provide clinical sites and supervision for multiple students designed to help them achieve competencies established by AHIMA.
- ❑ Support of training process for new professionals through teaching, serving on panel presentations or advisory committees, and advising individual students.

Rising Star Award:

Award Description: The Rising Star Award recognizes and encourages the best of the fresh new talent being trained in health information administration or health information technology degree granting programs nationwide. It honors a gifted student or promising new professional who embodies great hope as we look to the future of the HIM profession.

Qualifications: Qualified individuals are:

- a) Students currently enrolled, at the time of nomination in an approved health information administration or health information technology degree program, or who have graduated within the past three months or

- b) Qualified HIM professionals who have been credentialed within the last seven years.

Nominees must be members of AHIMA. They must demonstrate significant potential for future leadership, innovation, creativity, and administrative capacity.

Guidelines: Nominee must meet at least two of these criteria to be eligible for the Rising Star Award. Nomination criteria for this award include the following:

- ❑ Demonstrated commitment to the HIM profession through active participation in campus and professional activities (for example, student health information groups, attendance at local, state, or annual meetings; volunteer activities, and similar endeavors).
- ❑ Exceptional problem solving ability with the capacity to envision the “big picture” in health information management.
- ❑ Willingness to challenge tradition, take risks, and think critically and to lead others in these processes.
- ❑ Demonstrates excellence in management of personnel, finances or information systems.