



ASA Policy on Naming Awards and Scholarships
Approved by the ASA Board of Directors, November 20, 2020
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ASA policy and procedures for naming a new award or scholarship

Any individual (member or non-member) may request to establish a named award or scholarship. There are many benefits of naming an award or scholarship after an individual. For instance:

- The person is held in high regard among the statistical community and a named award would carry on the traditions/ideals of that person, and would honor/recognize their work and contributions to the field.
- Many individuals wish to leave a legacy and “pay it forward” by endowing an award through an estate gift. This is a great way to ensure future generations can benefit from their life’s work. Often family members establish an award/scholarship named after their loved one as a way of remembering them and carrying on their name. It can offer a great sense of comfort.
- The individuals for whom awards/scholarships are named are often important people in the history of statistics. By naming the awards, we are honoring our history and continuing to educate future generations on the statisticians/data scientists that paved the way for them.

Despite all the benefits of naming awards and scholarships, there can be harmful consequences as well. As such, the ASA will carefully consider any request to establish a named award or scholarship.

PROCESS

1. Anyone interested in establishing a named award either for themselves or to memorialize another individual must have an initial discussion with the ASA Executive Director and/or the ASA Director of Development and receive approval to proceed. The purpose of this preliminary approval is to ensure that the potential name and purpose of the award is consistent with the ASA’s mission and core values. This process also ensures the donor or group pursuing the award understands the pros and cons of naming the award and the process going forward.

2. If the donor/group decide to move forward with a named award/scholarship, they must submit a formal request in writing. The request should include:

- Purpose of the award/scholarship
- Background on the person for whom the award will be named, including their contributions to the statistics/data science fields.
- An alternate name – this would not be an individual’s name, but rather a descriptive name for the award not associated with or suggestive of a specific individual. If evidence arises that

triggers the ASA award renaming policy and if the board of directors decides to change the name, the alternate name will be used.

3. The ASA Board of Directors will form a subcommittee to research the request. The subcommittee will report their findings and recommendation to the board.

4. The ASA Board of Directors will vote to approve or deny the request.