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## Frequently Asked Questions about the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research

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**Mentoring Undergraduate Research:** This annual award was instituted in 1994 to recognize faculty for excellence in mentoring undergraduate research as a way to emphasize the importance and visibility of faculty's contribution to the excellence in mentoring and advocacy for undergraduate research and creative activities. The annual award was expanded to recognize the critical contributions of individuals at the graduate and post-doc level in 2015 and further expanded to include nominations of project scientists/specialists in 2021. The nominee in each category must be exceptional for his/her/their contribution to the mentoring of undergraduate students in research and/or creative activities. The recipients will be announced at the Chancellor's Award Reception in June with winners receiving a special plaque and \$500 award. The three categories are now 1. faculty, 2. postdoc or project scientist/Specialist and 3. graduate student

### How are candidates selected for the awards?

Successful candidates must be exceptional for his/her contribution to the mentoring undergraduates in research. The Chancellor's Award Selection Committee reviews nominations and selects a winner for each award.

### Is this award for a candidate's research/scholarship or for their mentoring of undergraduate students?

The award is solely focused on a candidate's mentoring of undergraduate students during their time at UC Davis.

### Who may nominate a faculty, postdoc, project scientist/specialist or grad student mentor for these awards?

Faculty, postdocs, project scientists/specialists and graduate students mentors may be nominated by:

- Undergraduate students
- Postdocs
- Graduate students
- Staff
- Academic senate or federation members

### How many letters are required?

- Two letters are required (and third is optional).
  - One letter of nomination from the list above.
  - One additional letter of recommendation from the list above.
  - A third letter of recommendation is optional.
    - Letters may be no more than 2 pages long, 12-point font, single spaced.
    - Letters co-signed by 2 or more people (e.g. by several students) are also acceptable.

### Can I nominate my post-doc if they no longer work at UC Davis?

- This award is reserved for faculty, postdoc and graduate student mentors who are current employees only.

### What do award recipients receive?

The recipient of each prestigious award will receive:

- a \$500 monetary award
- a special plaque
- special recognition at the Chancellor's Award Reception

**For more information contact:**  
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