



Regents Professor Award

Revised 04/2025

Purpose, Award and Eligibility

Purpose

Each year, the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System honors individuals at the rank of professor or equivalent whose outstanding performance in teaching, research, and service has been exemplary. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the A&M System on faculty members. The performance of those selected is considered meritorious and worthy of recognition of their achievements that impacted not only their institution or agency but also the community, the state of Texas, and/or national and international levels.

Award

The Regents Professor Award is based on the nominee's accomplishments throughout the past fiscal year. The designation of Regents Professor is the highest System-wide honor and carries significant responsibilities. Regents Professors are expected to function as role models within the A&M System and to devote appropriate service to System-wide activities, both ceremonial and professional when requested by their chief executive officer and/or the chancellor.

Eligibility

A nominee for the Regents Professor award shall be a full-time faculty member who has held the rank of professor (full) or equivalent for not less than five (5) consecutive years within an A&M System university or agency (i.e., agency to mean the engineering or agriculture components) and may include department heads and/or deans provided their administrative duties do not overshadow their faculty responsibilities.

The Regents Professor nominee must present evidence of the following:

- ☐ A demonstrated record of distinguished teaching
- ☐ A demonstrated record of distinguished accomplishments in research and other creative and scholarly activities
- ☐ A demonstrated record of outstanding service at the local, state, and/or national/ international levels
- ☐ A demonstrated record of commitment to the university or agency
- ☐ A record of notable indicators of the potential for the continuation of distinguished performance in all three areas (i.e., teaching, research, and service)

Individuals who have received the Regents Fellow Service Award are not eligible to receive the Regents Professor Award.

Nomination Process

Call for Nominations

In February, the A&M System chancellor will send a call for nominations to the university and agency Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Chief Academic Officers. After receiving the call for nominations, the university and agency leaders will distribute the call to their respective deans, directors, associate deans, department heads, and others as appropriate.



University Nomination Process

Upon receipt of the chancellor's Call for Nominations for the Regents Professor Award, the CEO and/or vice chancellor of the respective university/agency will announce the onset of the nomination and selection process. With the university president's or program vice-chancellor's concurrence, the local faculty governance structure shall appoint a review/selection committee. It is recommended that the review/selection committee include a past Regents Professor recipient to serve as an ex-officio representative.

This committee will issue a general call for Regents Professor nominations. Nominations may originate from deans, department heads, directors, program chairs, administrators, award committees, and individuals or groups of faculty members. All nominations must be coordinated through the university's review/selection committee.

Number of Nominations

Institutions with less than 140 full-time professors or equivalent may forward up to one (1) Regents Professor nomination for consideration by the A&M System Review Committee; those with more than 140 full-time professors or equivalent may forward up to two (2) nominations.

A university/agency component may not increase its number of nominees in a given year to make up for years in which it did not submit recommendations.

In 2023, Texas A&M University's maximum nomination amount was increased to four (4) nominations in recognition of the significant increase in its faculty size since the inauguration of the Regents Professor Award program in 1998. Additionally, all nominations that had previously been separately allocated to Texas A&M University and its associated campuses (e.g., College Station (4), Galveston Campus (1), and Health Science Center (2)) and agencies (e.g., Engineering (1) and Agriculture (1)) will be combined into a centralized TAMU pool of nine (9) nominations that the TAMU president will manage.

Nomination Packet

The designation of Regents Professor is the most prestigious award from the A&M System to highlight exemplary faculty. Therefore, the nomination packet assembled for review should summarize the best of the nominee's performance in teaching, research, and service during their career. Equal weight is to be given to performance in all three areas.

The selection process is a two-step procedure. The first step requires the submission of materials for the University Nomination Packet. The second step involves submitting additional materials for the System Nomination Packet.



Step I. University Nomination Packet

The nomination packet should reflect and highlight the nominee's most significant accomplishments in teaching, research, and service. It is the institution's responsibility to ensure that nominees exemplify the highest standards of excellence and have a demonstrated record of sustained achievement across these three areas.

Step II. System Nomination Packet

The following documents should be submitted electronically via the submission portal on the Regents Awards webpage (<https://www.tamus.edu/academic/regents-awards/>) on or before the stated deadline.

- ❑ **Nomination Form:** The nomination form can be accessed via the nomination submission portal on the Regents Awards webpage;
- ❑ **Letter of Transmittal and Selection Process:** A signed letter from the chief executive officer(s) addressed to the Chancellor, endorsing the nominee and providing a summary of the university/agency's nomination, review, and selection process, including criteria that were considered;
- ❑ **Photograph:** A color, high-resolution (at least 300 dpi) headshot photograph of the nominee in a .JPG format. Please do not submit a photo embedded in a Word or .PDF file;
- ❑ **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** A current and moderately detailed curriculum vitae (25-page max. length). Please delete all personal references such as marital status and family references;
- ❑ **Summary Bio:** A short biography (135 words or less) used for marketing and promotional materials.
- ❑ **Summary Presentation:** A compilation (written in third-person, single-spaced, 12-point font, 5-page max. length) of the nominee's most outstanding qualifications, major achievements, and contributions that demonstrate the nominee's competence in exceeding the three listed criteria areas (teaching, research, and service) for the award. This can be the same presentation submitted in the university/agency nomination packet.;

Review and Selection Process

University Review/Selection Committee

The evaluation of the candidate's qualifications shall be the responsibility of the university/agency. Each university or agency is expected to conduct a robust and rigorous selection process to identify its nominee(s) for the Regents Professor Award. Nominees who have joint appointments within the university/agency will require review and approval by the CEO of each university/agency.

Following the review and concurrence by the CEO, or each CEO in the case of joint appointments, the final nominee(s) will be notified. A formal nomination packet will be prepared for submission to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, which will require the final nominee(s) to submit materials as noted in Step II – the System Nomination Packet. The institutional selection and endorsement serve as the final review prior to submission to the Board of Regents for consideration and approval.

Board of Regents Approval

The System Office of Academic Affairs will review all nomination packets and verify that all required materials have been received before forwarding them for approval by the Board of Regents. The selection of award



recipients and formal approval is granted solely by the A&M System Board of Regents and typically occurs during their fall meeting.

Award Recognition

Regents Professor Title

The recipient of the Regents Professor Award shall retain the title of *Regents Professor* for the duration of their service within the Texas A&M University System.

Stipend

Recipients receive a monetary stipend in the total amount of \$15,000, payable as a non-base award. The respective agency may, at their discretion, award the entire stipend at one time. Each university or agency will fund the stipend through its normal budgeting process.

Medallion

Every Regents Professor Award recipient receives a special commemorative medallion bearing the seal of the A&M System. The medallion is designed to be worn on special agency occasions when appropriate. The medallion, inscribed nameplate, and certificate, signed by the Chancellor and Chairman of the Board of Regents, are presented to the Regents Fellow recipients at the special recognition event.

Special Recognition Event

Following Board approval, a special recognition event shall commence at a date and location chosen by the Board of Regents and in consultation with the Chancellor.